



**University of  
Zurich** <sup>UZH</sup>



**European Research Council**  
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# DARWIN - A NEXT-GENERATION OBSERVATORY FOR DARK MATTER AND NEUTRINO PHYSICS

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**UNIVERSITÄT ZÜRICH**

**VIRTUAL SNOLAB SEMINAR**  
**AUGUST 24, 2020**

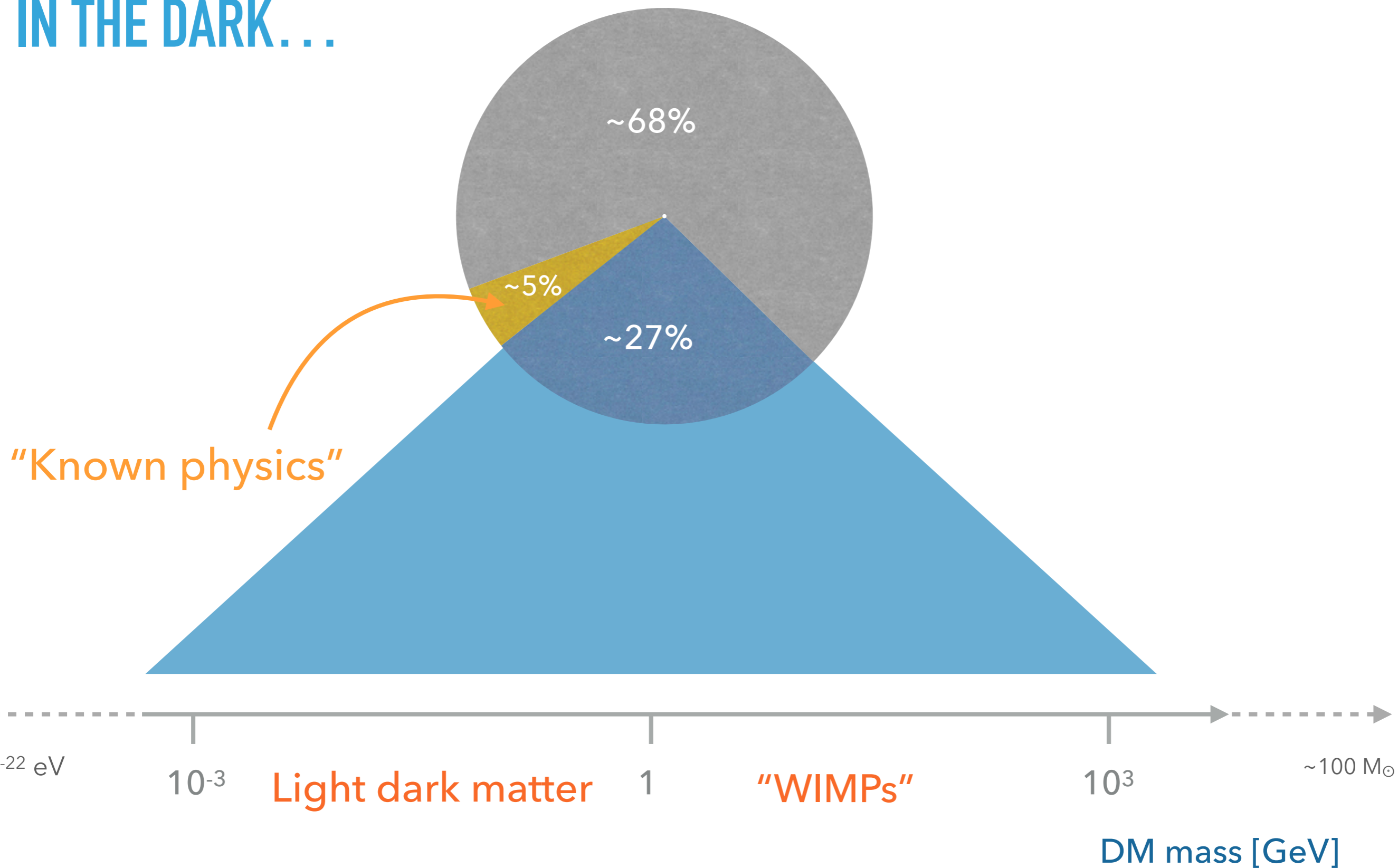


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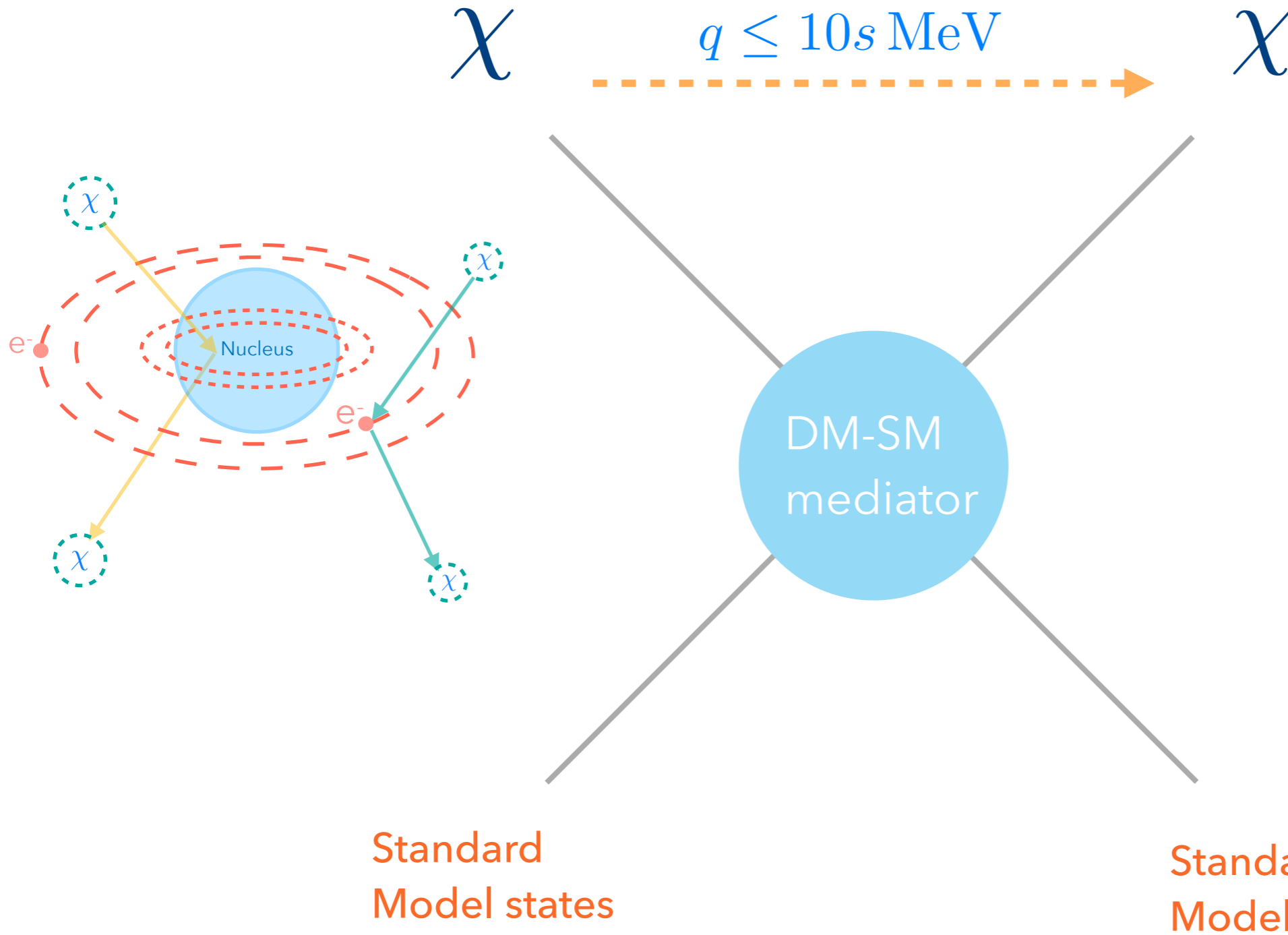
# SOME KEY OPEN QUESTIONS IN PARTICLE PHYSICS

- ▶ The nature of dark matter
- ▶ Baryogenesis
- ▶ The strong CP problem
- ▶ The fermion mass spectrum and mixing
- ▶ The cosmological constant
- ▶ ...
  - ◎ Some of these can be addressed *with liquid xenon detectors operated deep underground*
  - ◎ Demonstrated excellent sensitivities and scalability to large target masses

# IN THE DARK...



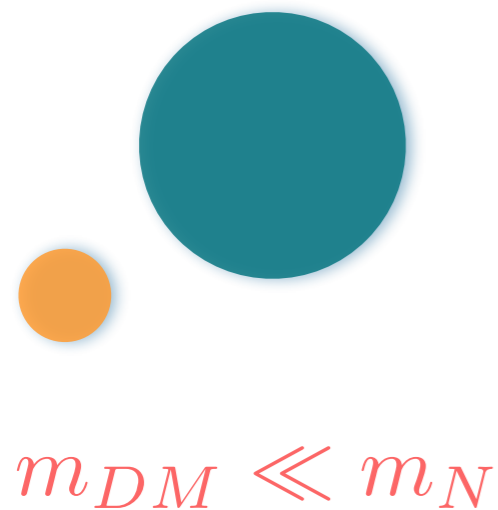
# DIRECT DARK MATTER DETECTION



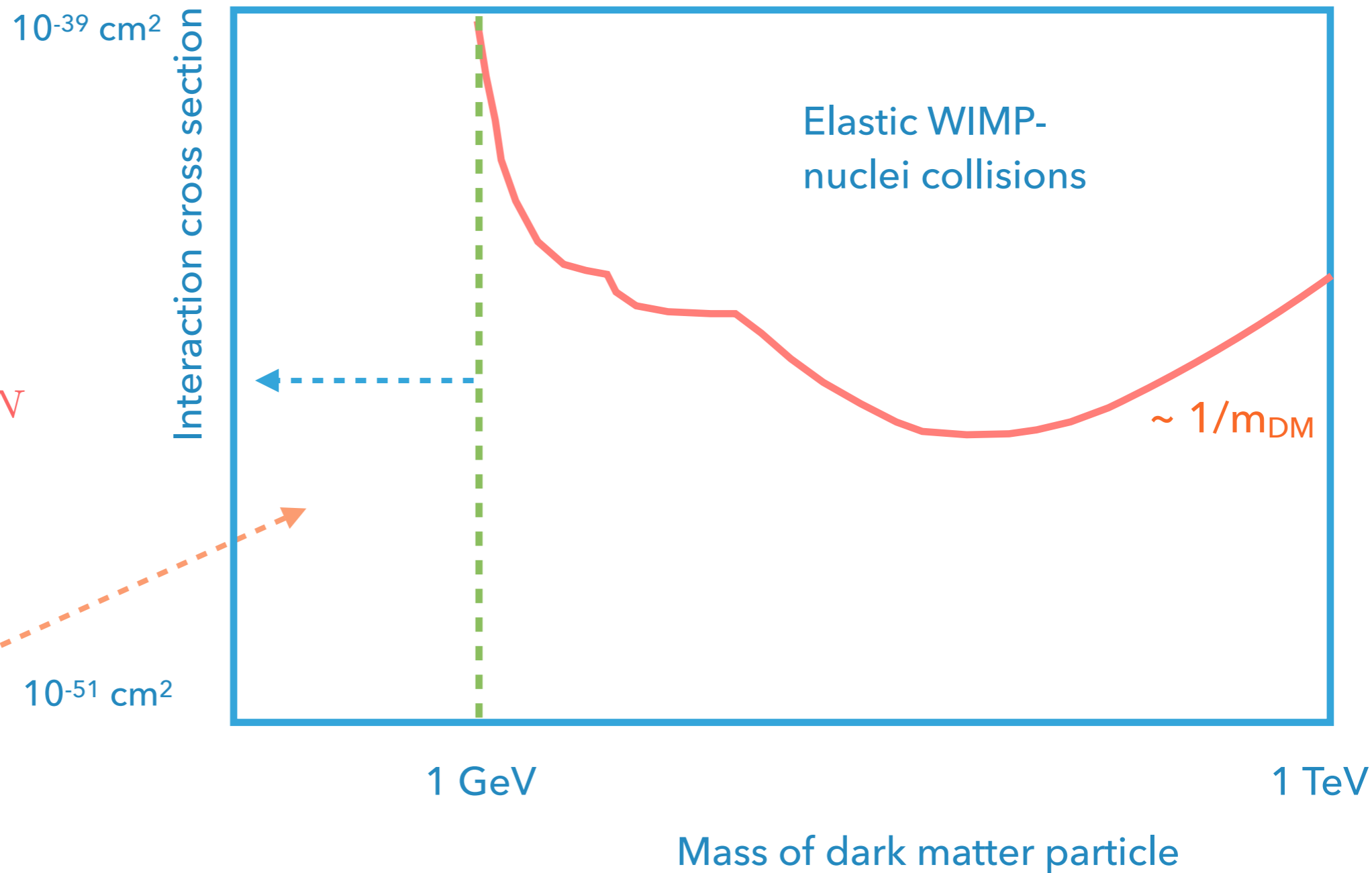
- + collisions with electrons in the atomic shell, or absorption of light bosons via the axio-electric effect
- + Bremsstrahlung from polarised atoms;  $e^-$  emission due to so-called Migdal effect

see e.g., Kouvaris, Pradler, McCabe; M. Ibe et al.

# DM INTERACTION CROSS SECTION VS MASS

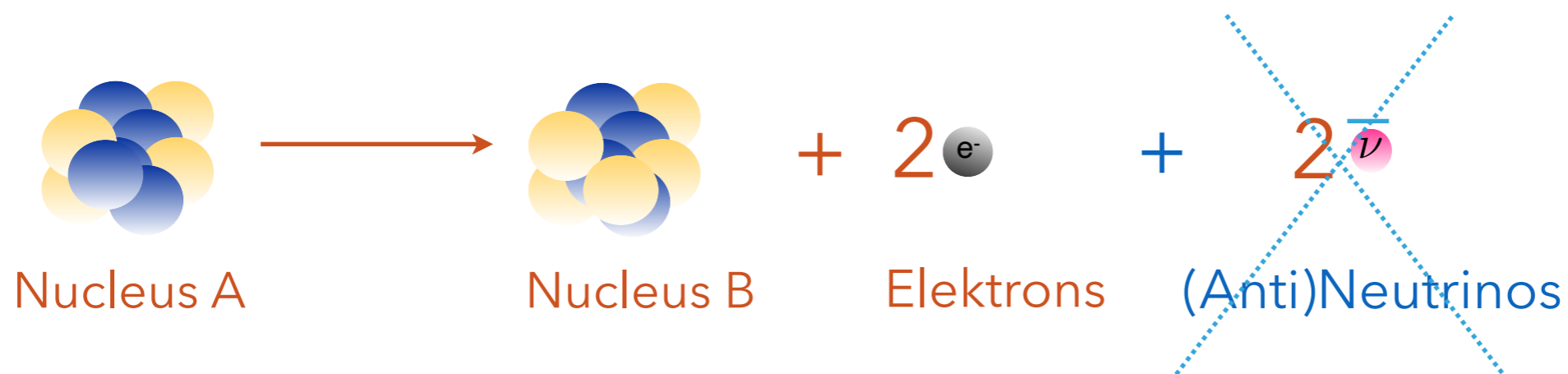


Electron recoils and additional signal from shell  $e^-$  from the recoiling nuclei



# NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY

- ▶ Some of the open questions in neutrino physics can be addressed with an extremely rare nuclear decay process: the neutrinoless double beta decay
  - What is the nature of neutrinos? Are they Dirac or Majorana particles?
  - What are the absolute values of neutrino masses, and the mass ordering?
  - What is the origin of small neutrino masses?



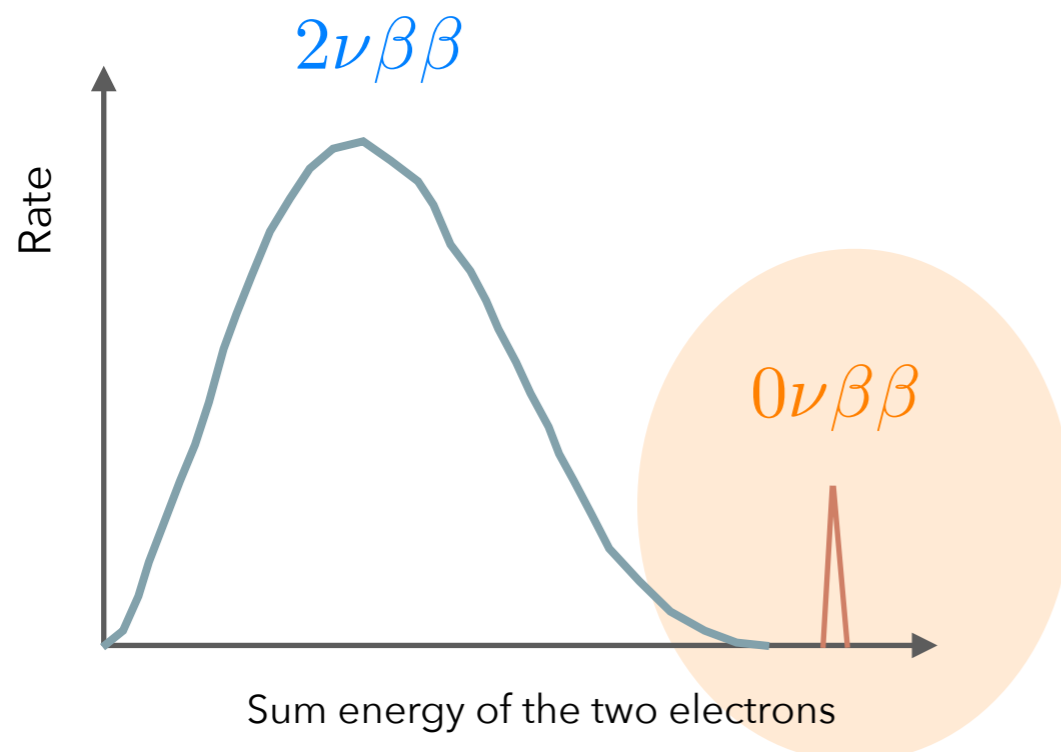
# NEUTRINOLESS DOUBLE BETA DECAY

- ▶ Can only occur if neutrinos have mass and if they are their own antiparticles =>  $\Delta L = 2$

$$T_{1/2}^{0\nu\beta\beta} > 10^{24} \text{ y}$$

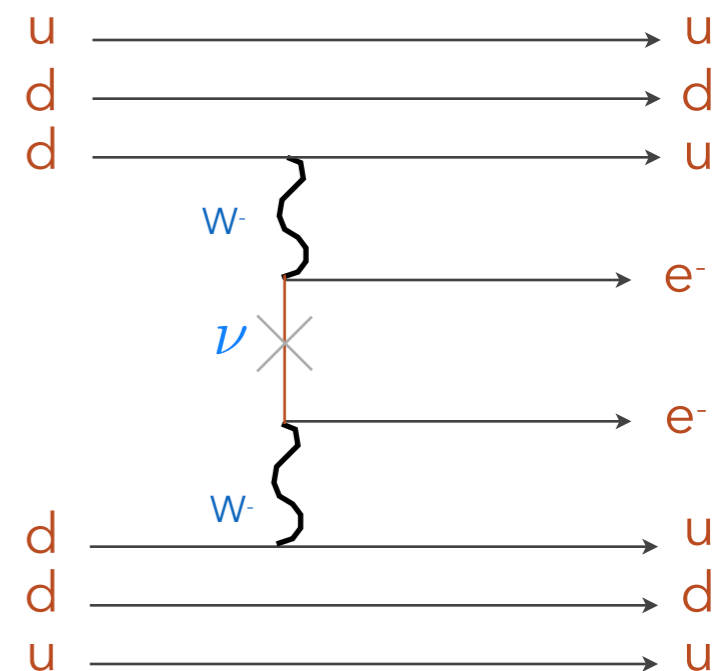
- ▶ Expected signature: *sharp peak at the Q-value of the decay*

$$Q = E_{e1} + E_{e2} - 2m_e$$



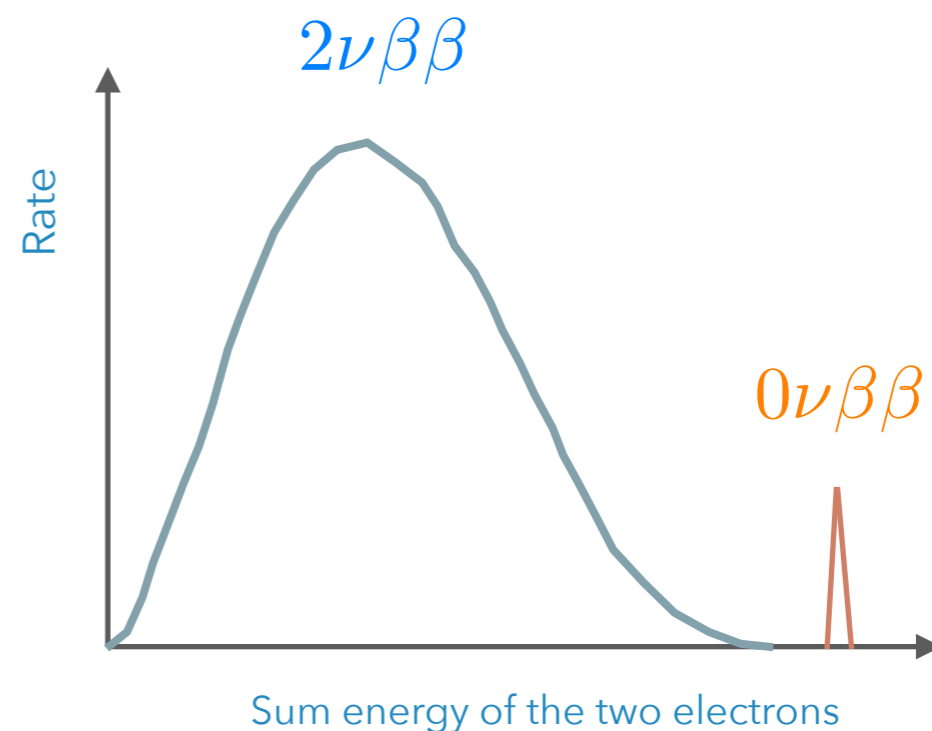
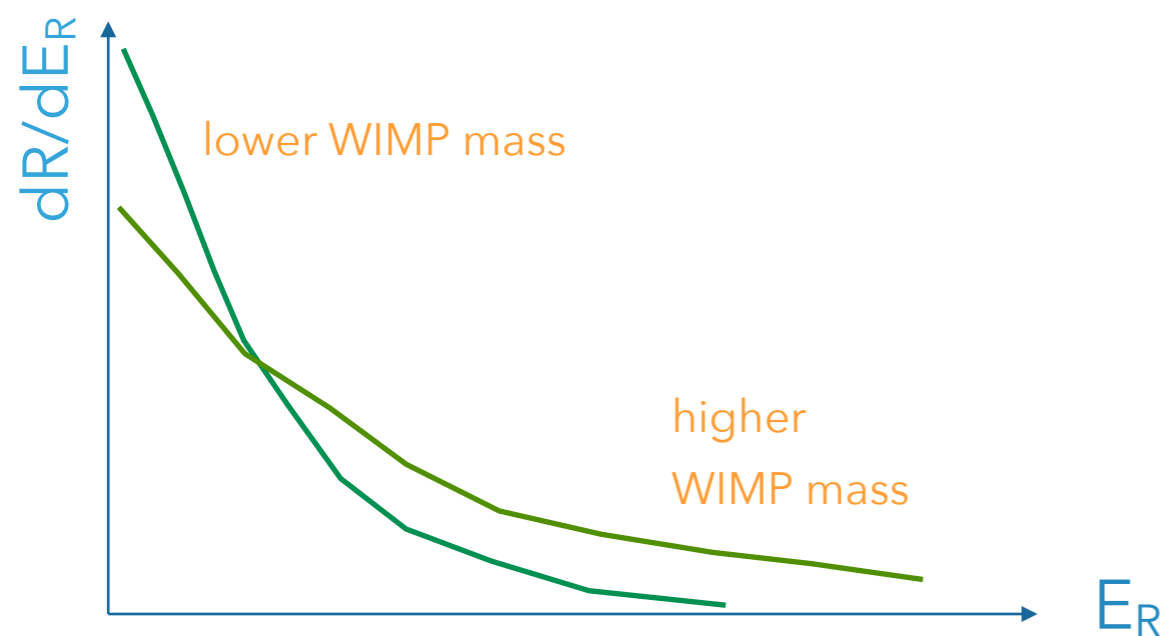
The double beta decay without neutrinos: first discussed by Wendell H. Fury in 1939

Ettore Majorana had proposed in 1937 that neutrinos could be their own antiparticles



# DARK MATTER & DOUBLE BETA DECAY EXPERIMENTS

- Nuclear recoils:  $\sim$ keV-energies
- Featureless recoil spectrum
- Very low event rates:  $< 0.1/(\text{kg} \times \text{year})$
- Q-values: MeV-scale
- Peak at the Q-value
- Very low event rates:  $< 0.1/(\text{kg} \times \text{year})$





# MAIN EXPERIMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

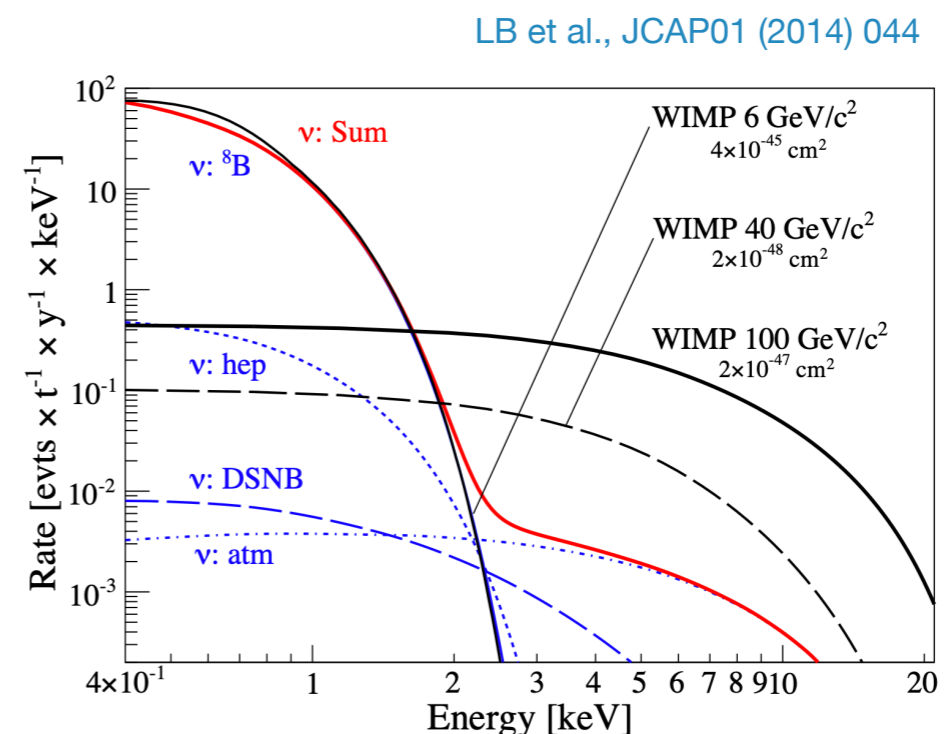
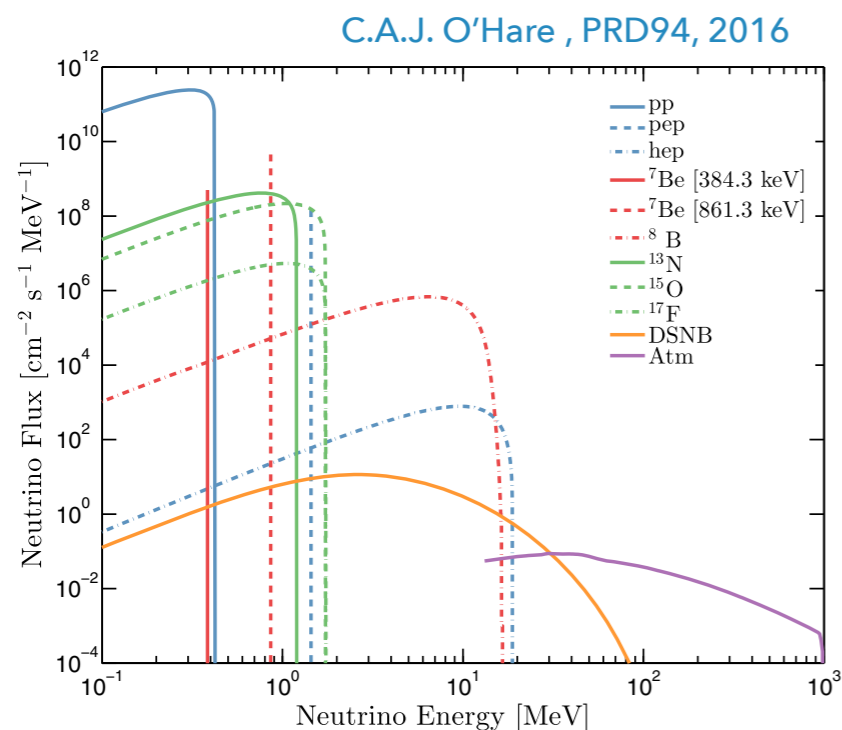
- Low energy thresholds
- Large detector masses
- Ultra-low backgrounds
- Excellent signals versus background discrimination
- Excellent energy resolution
- Large detector masses
- Ultra-low backgrounds
- Excellent signals versus background discrimination

$$R \propto N \frac{\rho}{m_\chi} \sigma \langle v \rangle$$

$$N_{\beta\beta} \propto \lambda_{\beta\beta} N t$$

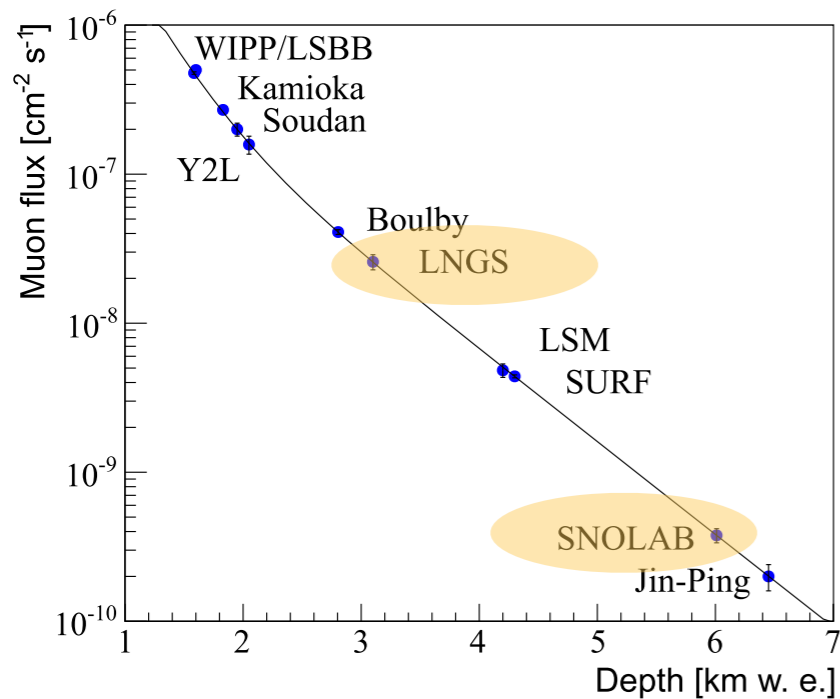
# BACKGROUNDS

- ▶ In the ideal case: below the expected signal
  - ▶ Muons & associated showers; cosmogenic activation of detector materials
  - ▶ Natural ( $^{228}\text{U}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  $^{40}\text{K}$ ) and anthropogenic ( $^{85}\text{Kr}$ ,  $^{137}\text{Cs}$ ) radioactivity:  $\gamma, e^-, \alpha, n$
  - ▶ Neutrinos: coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scattering (DM) and elastic neutrino-electron scattering (DM and  $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay)



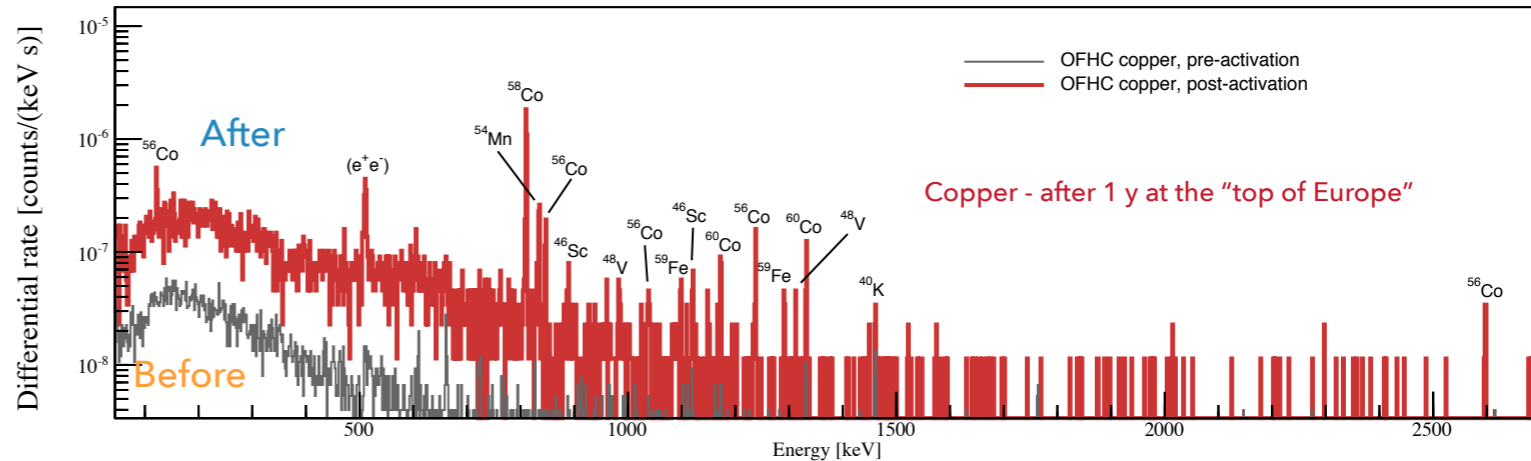
# BACKGROUND REDUCTION

Go deep underground

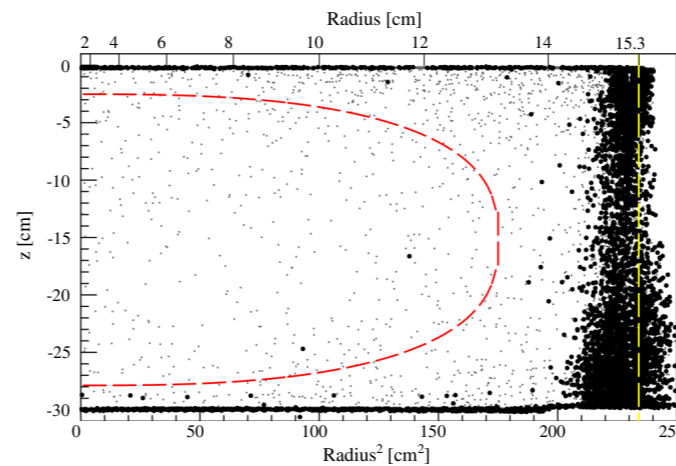


Avoid cosmic activation

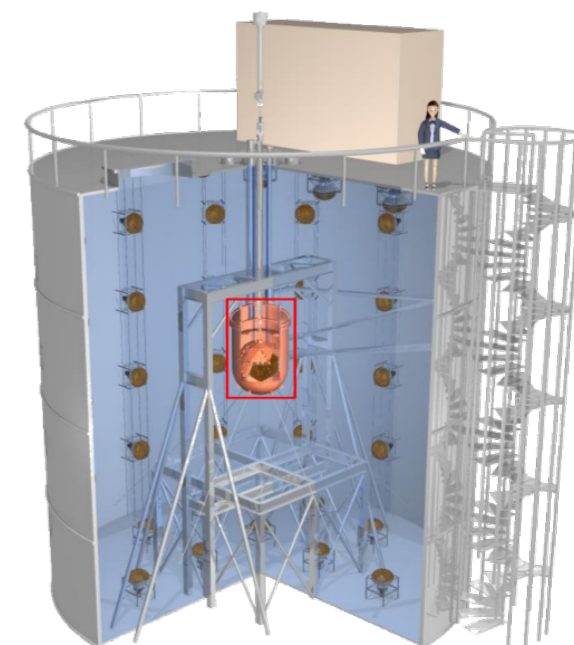
LB et al., Eur. Phys. J. C75 2015



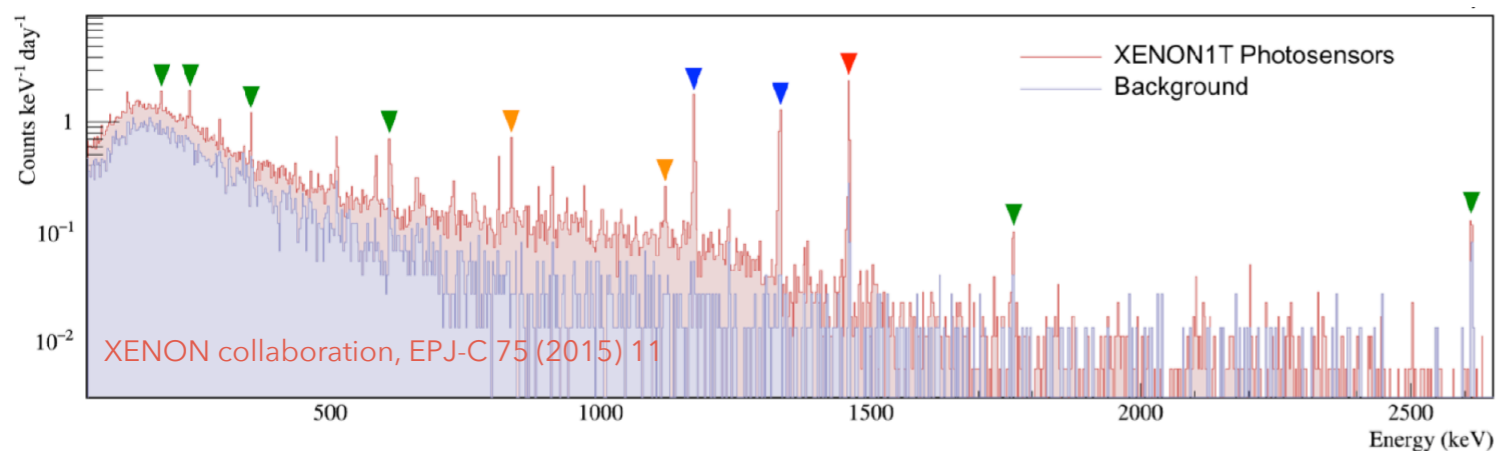
Fiducialize



Use active shields



Select low-radioactivity materials

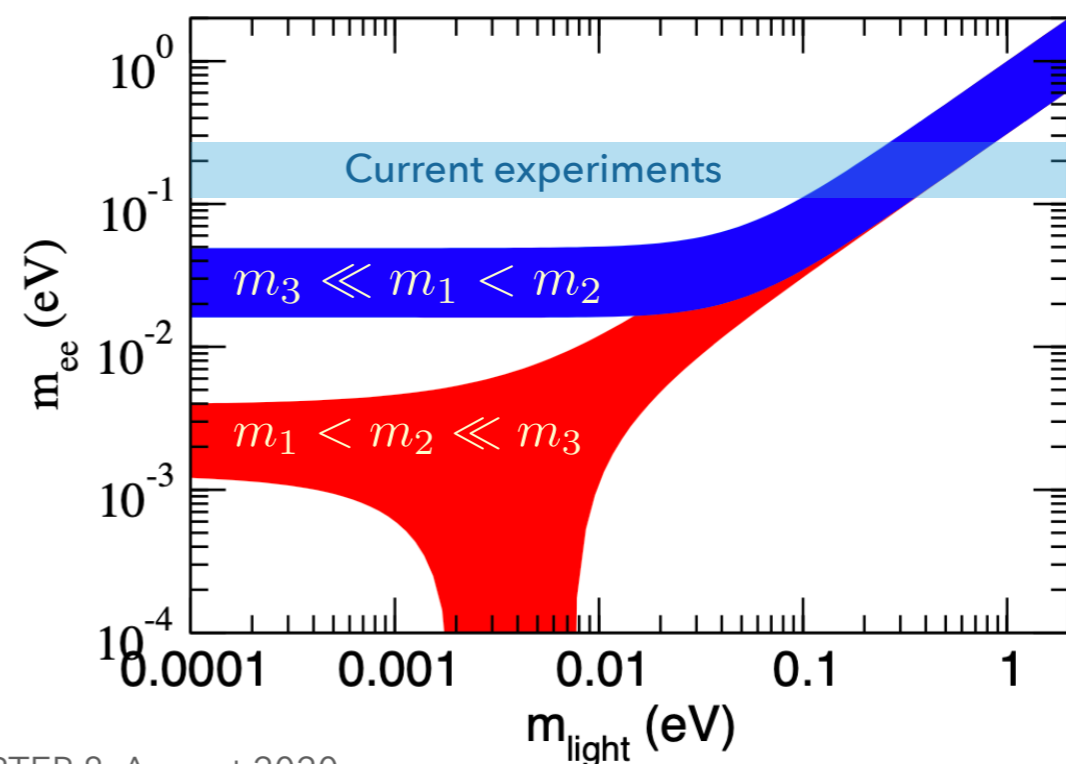
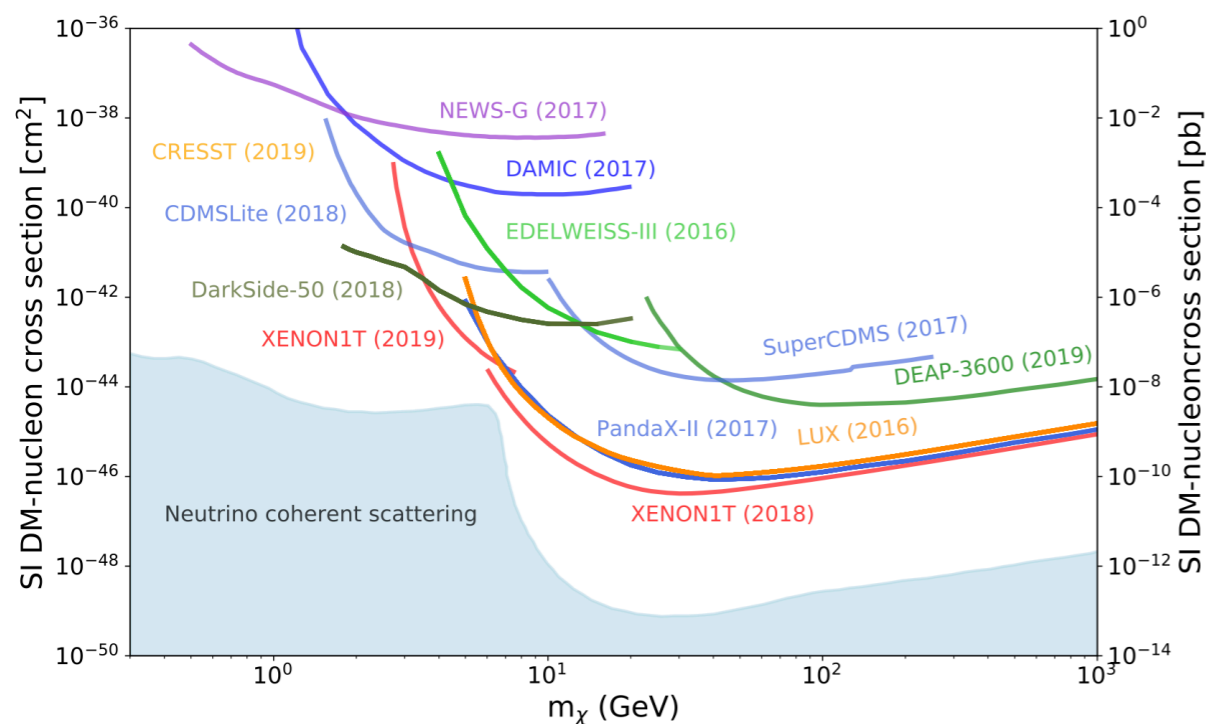


# EXPERIMENTAL STATUS: OVERVIEW

- ▶ No evidence for dark matter particles
- ▶ Probing scattering cross sections (on nucleons) of  $\sim$  a few  $\times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$
- ▶ No evidence for the neutrinoless double beta decay
- ▶ Probing half-lives up to  $1.8 \times 10^{26}$  years

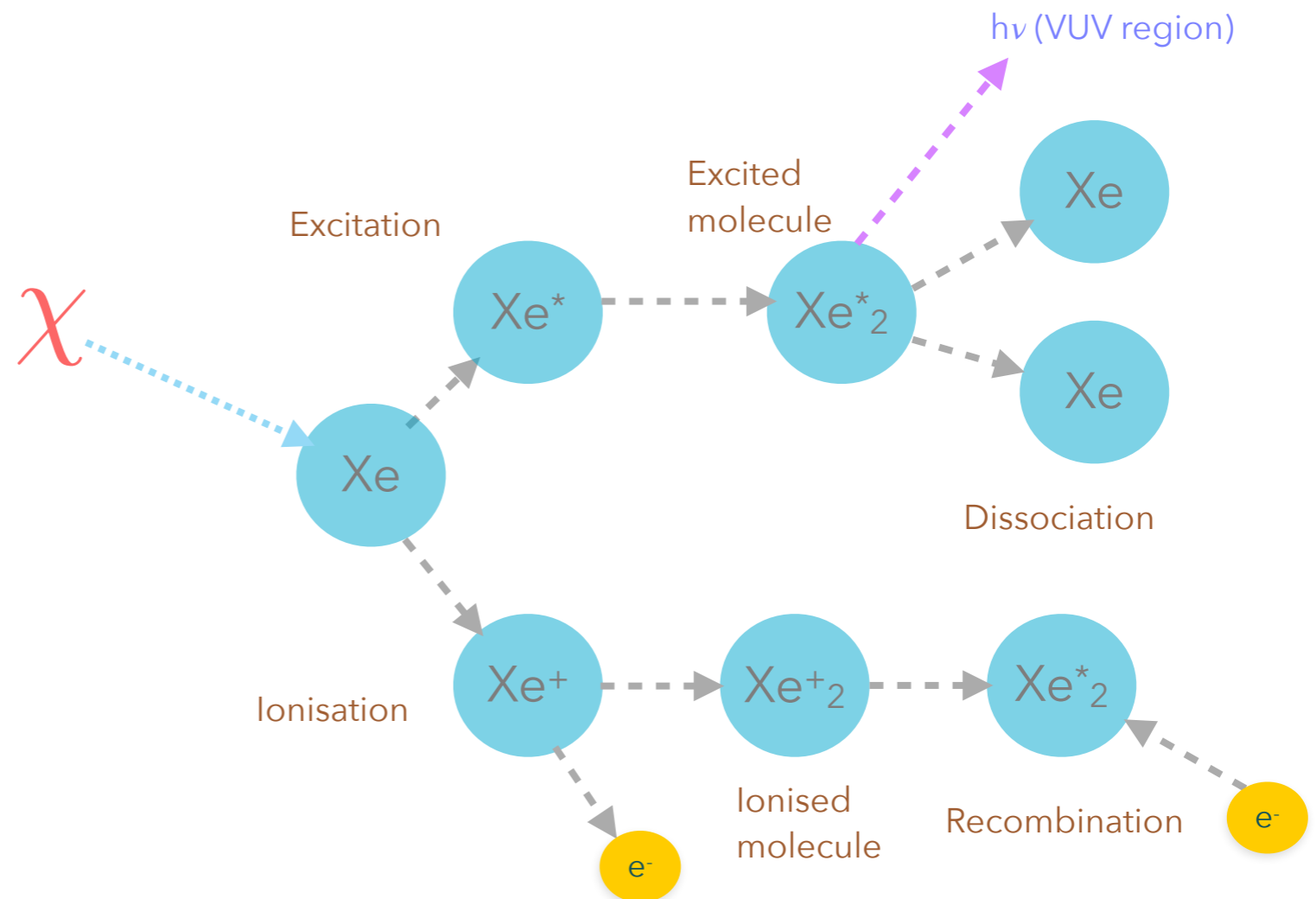
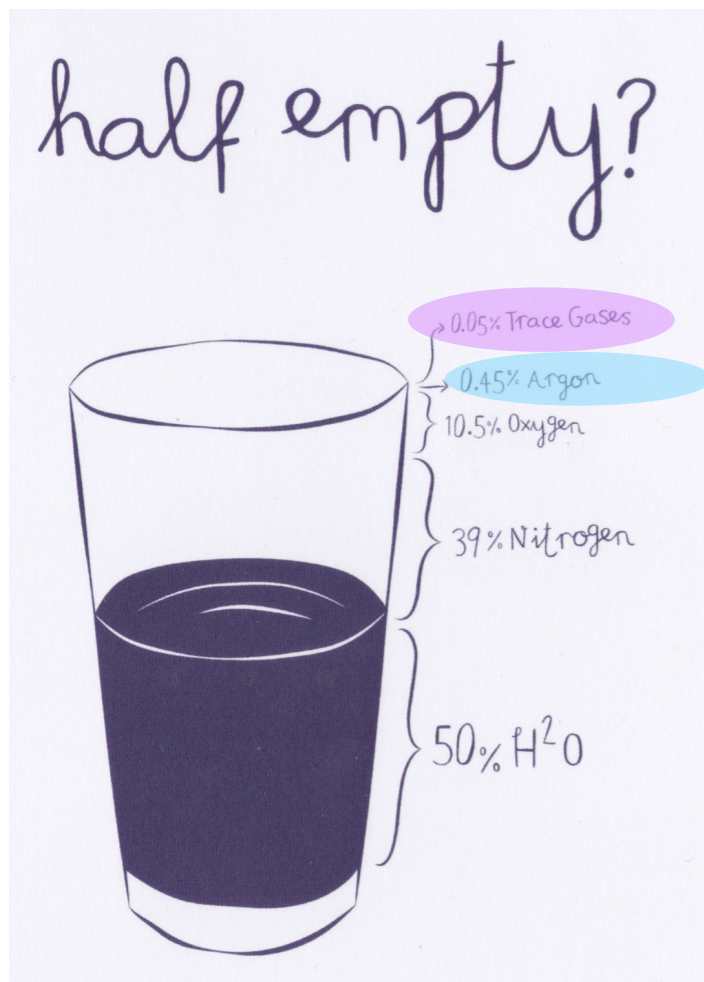
$$\sigma_{\text{SI}} < 4.1 \times 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ at } 30 \text{ GeV}/c^2$$

$$m_{\beta\beta} < (0.08 - 0.18) \text{ eV (90\% C.L.)}$$



# THE DARWIN EXPERIMENT

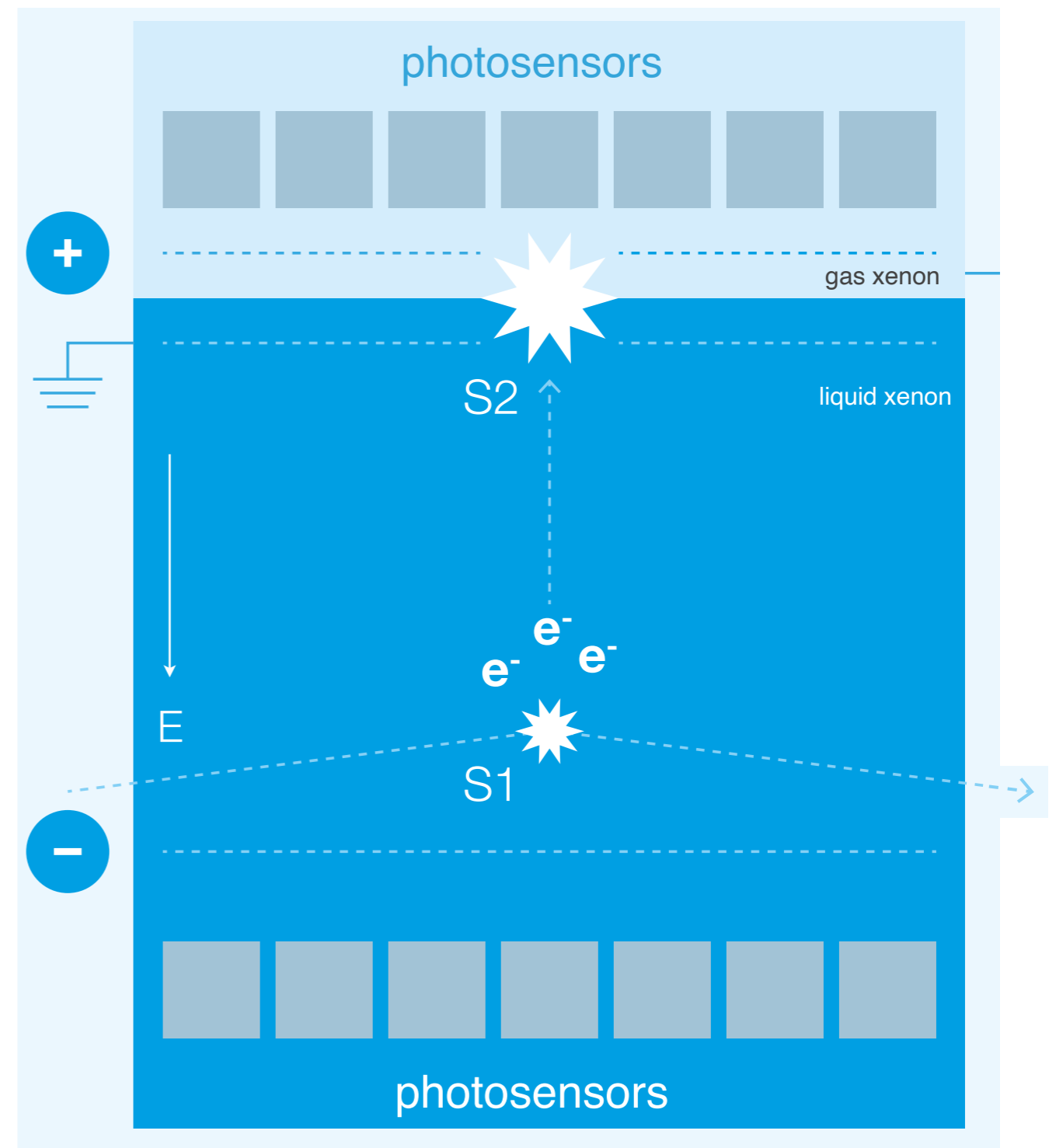
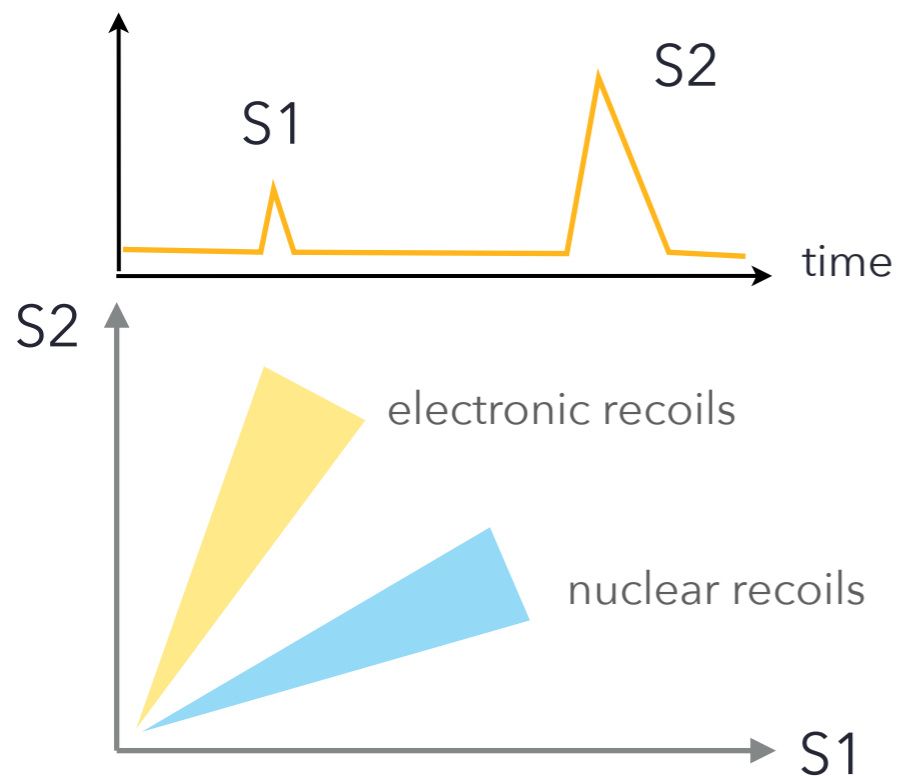
- ▶ Will use a large amount of clean liquid xenon target & detect ionisation and excitation from particle interactions
- ▶ Xenon: "the strange one", concentration in the atmosphere: 87 ppb\* (by volume)



\*[https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-39312-4\\_202](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-39312-4_202)

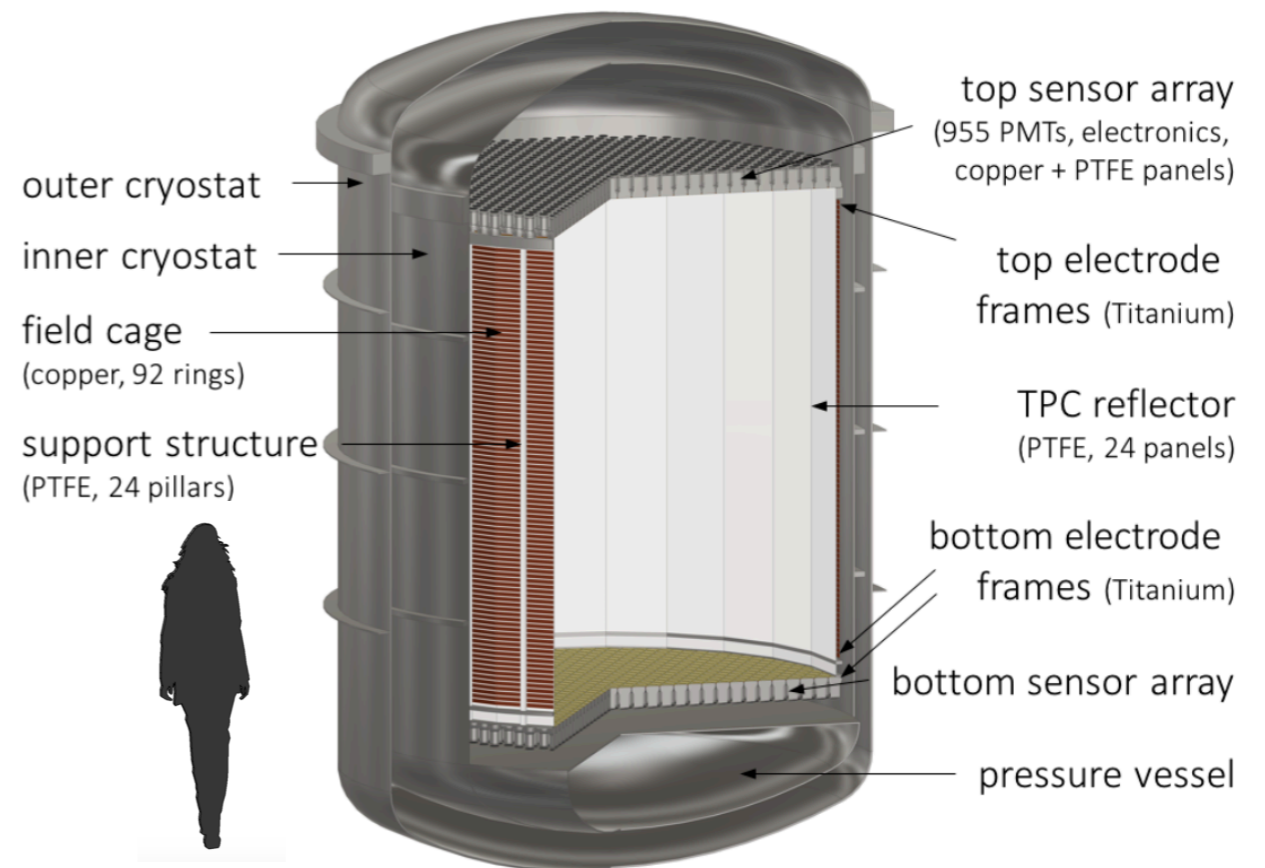
# DETECTION PRINCIPLE: A TWO-PHASE TPC

- ▶ 3D position resolution via light (S1) and charge (S2) signals
- ▶ S2/S1 depends on particle ID
- ▶ Fiducialisation
- ▶ Single versus multiple interactions



# DARWIN DESIGN: BASELINE SCENARIO

- ▶ Two-phase TPC: 2.6 m  $\varnothing$ , 2.6 m height
- ▶ 50 t (40 t) LXe in total (in the TPC)
- ▶ Two arrays of photosensors (e.g. 1800 3-inch PMTs)
- ▶ PTFE reflectors and copper field shaping rings
- ▶ Low-background, double-walled titanium cryostat
- ▶ Shield: Gd-doped water, for  $\mu$  and n



DARWIN collaboration, JCAP 1611 (2016) 017

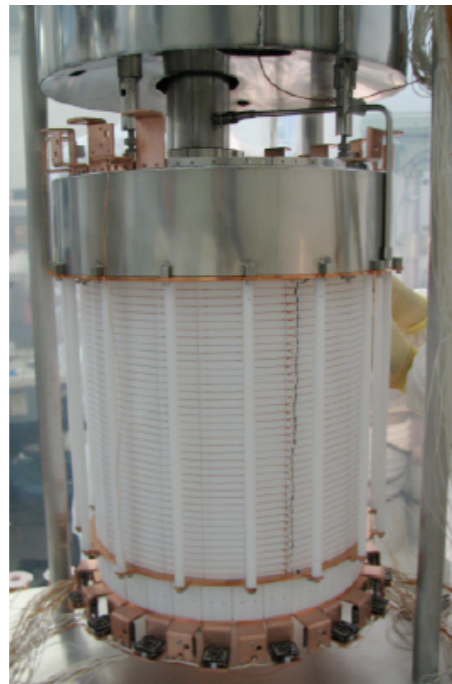
Alternative designs and photosensors under consideration

# BENCHMARK: THE XENON LEGACY AT LNGS

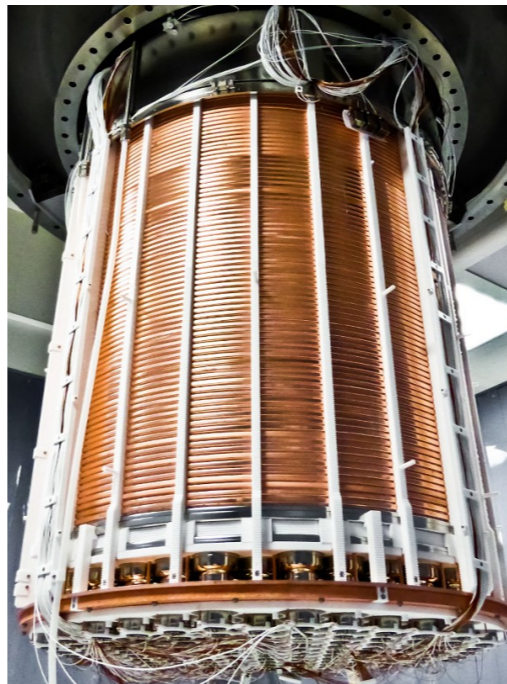
XENON10



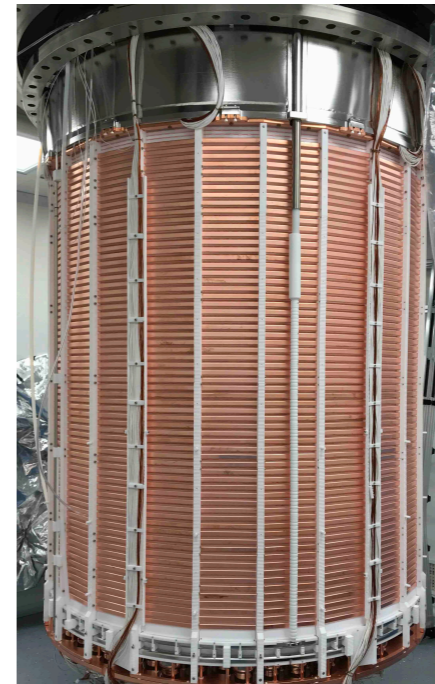
XENON100



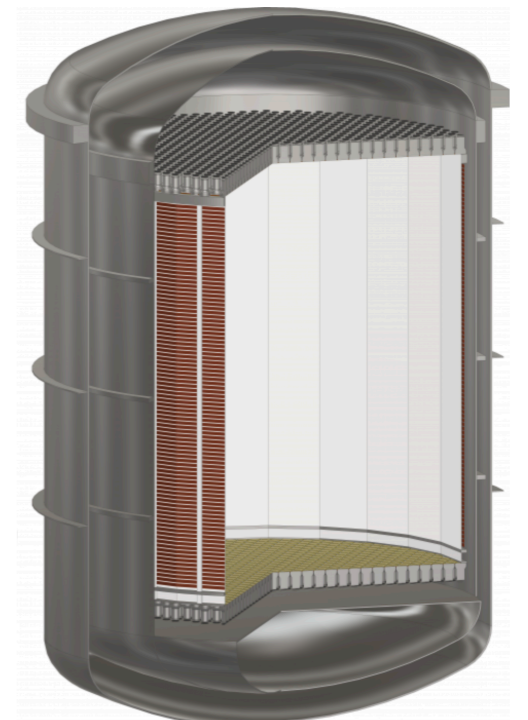
XENON1T



XENONnT



DARWIN



2005-2007

2008-2016

2012-2018

2020-2025

2027–

15 kg

161 kg

3200 kg

8400 kg

50 tonnes

15 cm

30 cm

96 cm

150 cm

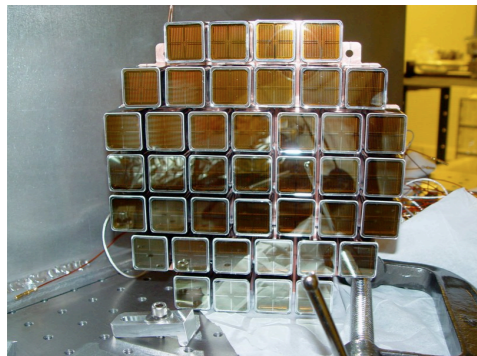
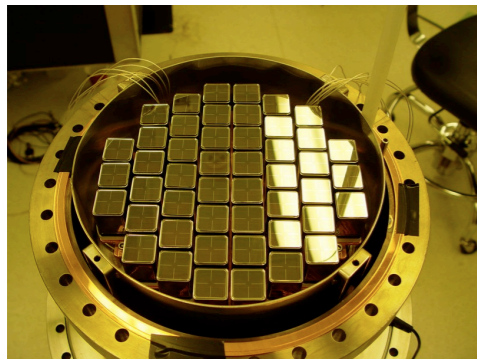
260 cm

 $\sim 10^{-43} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-45} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-47} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-48} \text{ cm}^2$  $\sim 10^{-49} \text{ cm}^2$

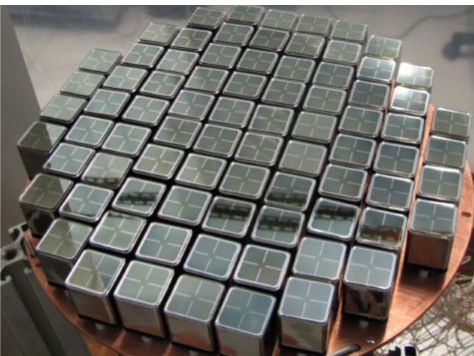
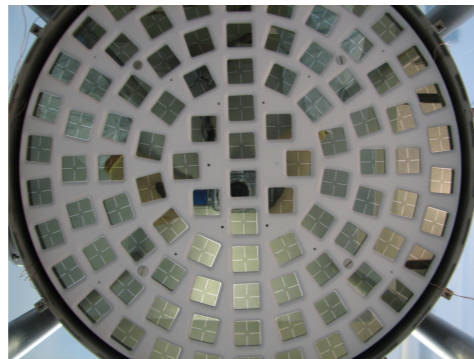


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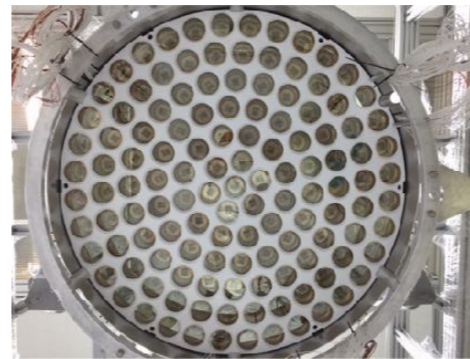
XENON10



XENON100



XENON1T



XENONnT



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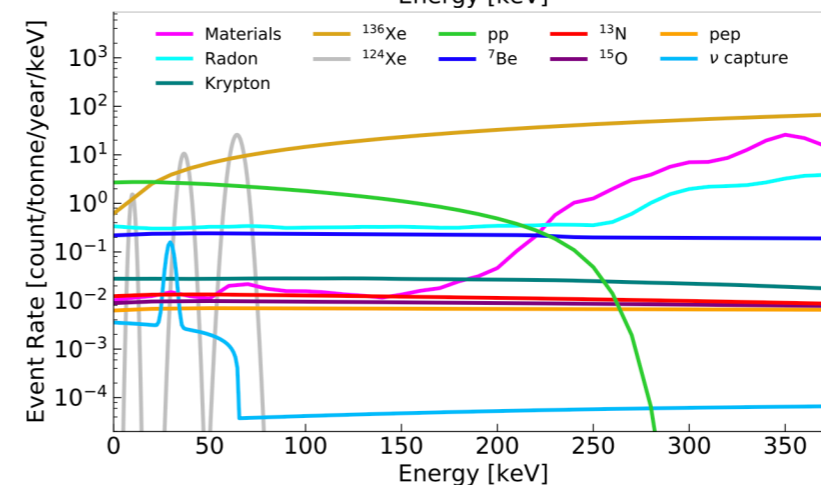
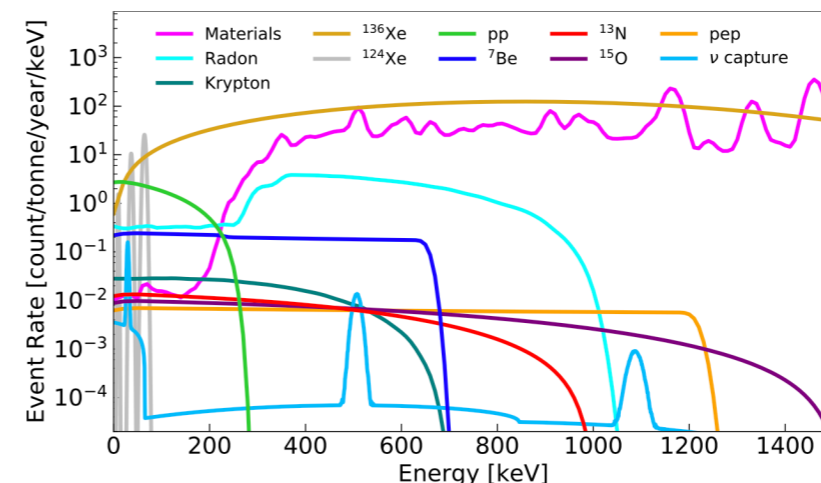
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# DARWIN BACKGROUND GOAL AND MAIN SOURCES

- ▶ Goal: allow for "background-free" exposure of 200 t y for the DM search
- ▶ ER and NR backgrounds: to be limited by neutrino-induced events
  - $^{222}\text{Rn}$  in liquid xenon: goal is  $0.1 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  (achieved  $\sim 6 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  in XENON1T,  $\sim 1.8 \mu\text{Bq/kg}$  in LUX)
  - natKr: goal is  $0.1 \text{ ppt}$  (achieved  $< 26 \text{ ppq}^*$ )
  - $^{136}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{124}\text{Xe}$  ( $T_{1/2} = 1.8 \times 10^{22} \text{ y}^{**}$ )
  - Solar neutrinos (pp,  $^7\text{Be}$ )
  - Radiogenic neutrons
  - Muon-induced neutrons
  - CEvNS (solar, atm neutrinos)

\*XENON collaboration, EPJ-C 77, 2017

\*\*XENON collaboration, Nature 568, 2019



Example:

ER background at low energies (30 t fiducial)

DARWIN collaboration,  
arXiv: 2006.03114

# DARWIN PHYSICS PROGRAMME

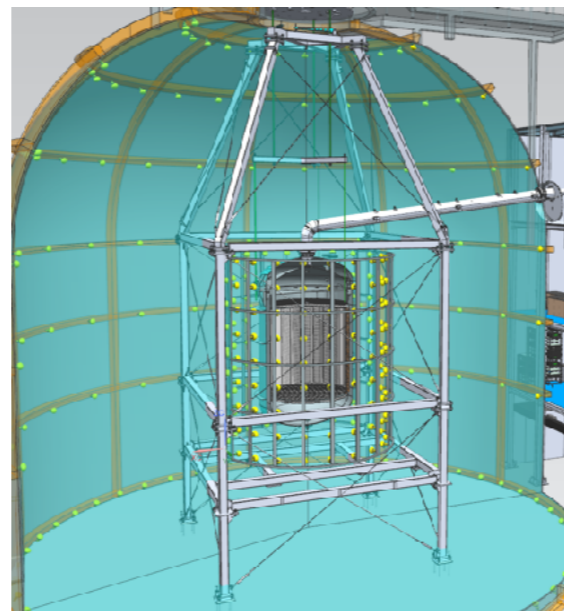
SOLAR AXIONS

DIRECT DARK  
MATTER DETECTION

NEUTRINOLESS  
DOUBLE BETA DECAY  
 $^{136}\text{Xe}$

DARWIN Collaboration,  
arXiv:2003.13407

GALACTIC ALPS,  
DARK PHOTONS



LOW-ENERGY  
SOLAR NEUTRINOS

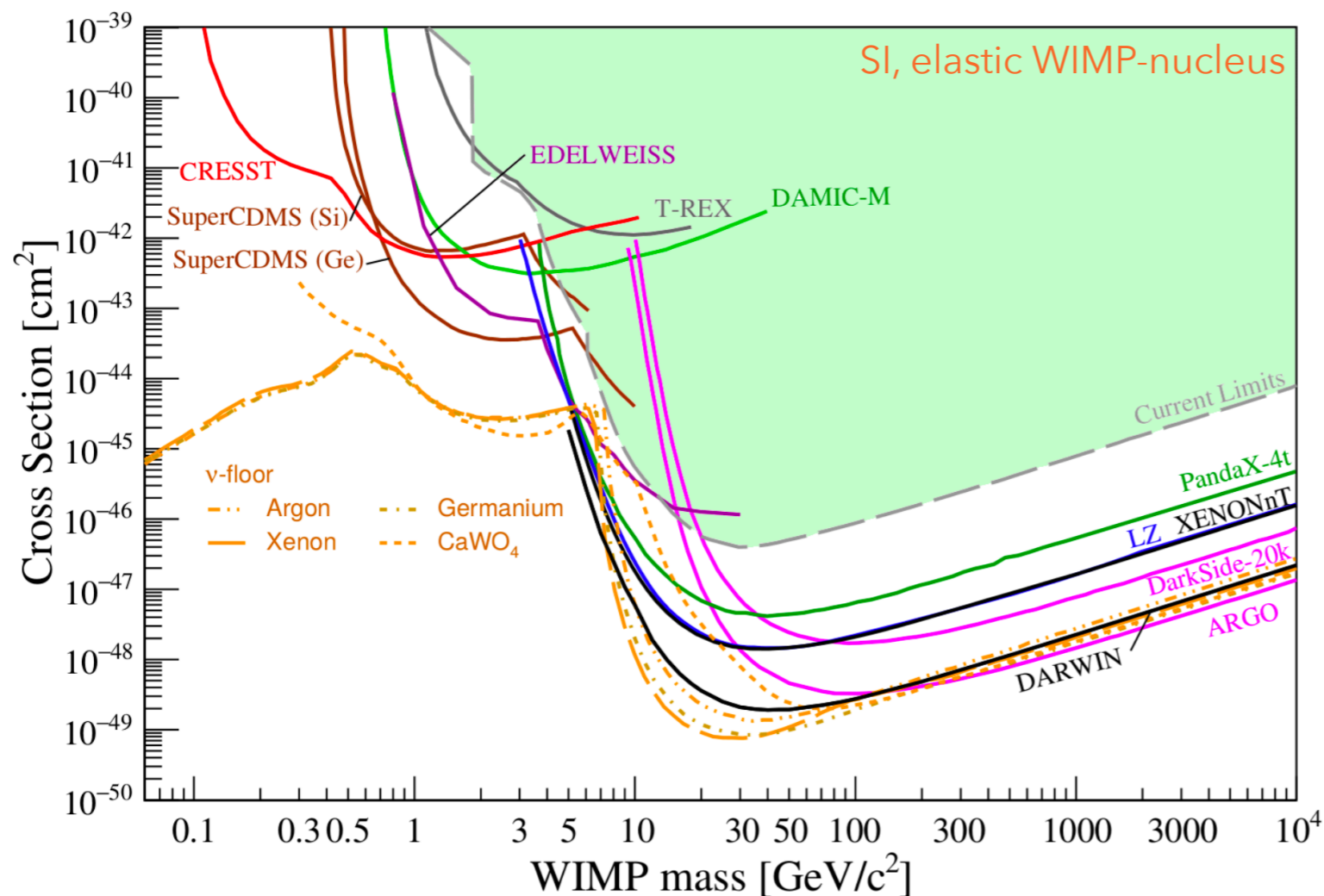
DARWIN Collaboration,  
arXiv:2006.03114

COHERENT  
NEUTRINO NUCLEUS  
SCATTERS

SUPERNOVA  
NEUTRINOS

# DIRECT DARK MATTER DETECTION: WIMPS

- ▶ Probe SI elastic scattering:  $^{124}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{126}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{128}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{129}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{130}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{131}\text{Xe}$ ,  $^{132}\text{Xe}$  (26.9%),  $^{134}\text{Xe}$  (10.4%),  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  (8.9%)
- ▶ SD (+ inelastic) DM-nucleus scattering:  $^{129}\text{Xe}$  (26.4%),  $^{131}\text{Xe}$  (21.2%)



APPEC Dark Matter Report 2020

Preliminary

#### Committee Members:

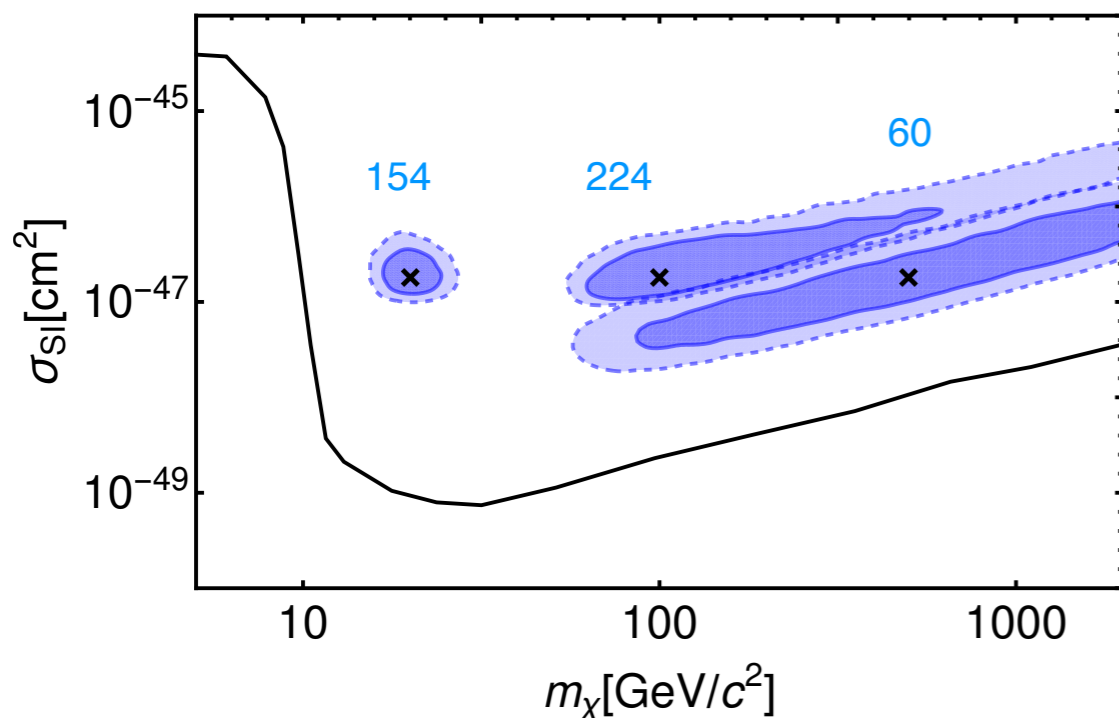
Julien Billard<sup>1</sup>, Mark Boulay<sup>2</sup>, Susana Cebrián<sup>3</sup>, Laura Covi<sup>4</sup>,  
Giuliana Fiorillo<sup>5</sup>, Anne Green<sup>6</sup>, Joachim Kopp<sup>7</sup>, Béla Majorovits<sup>8</sup>,  
Kimberly Palladino<sup>9</sup>, Federica Petricca<sup>8</sup>, Leszek Roszkowski<sup>10</sup> (chair), Marc Schumann<sup>11</sup>

Assumptions for DARWIN: 30 t LXe in FV, 99.98%  
ER rejection (at 30% NR acceptance)

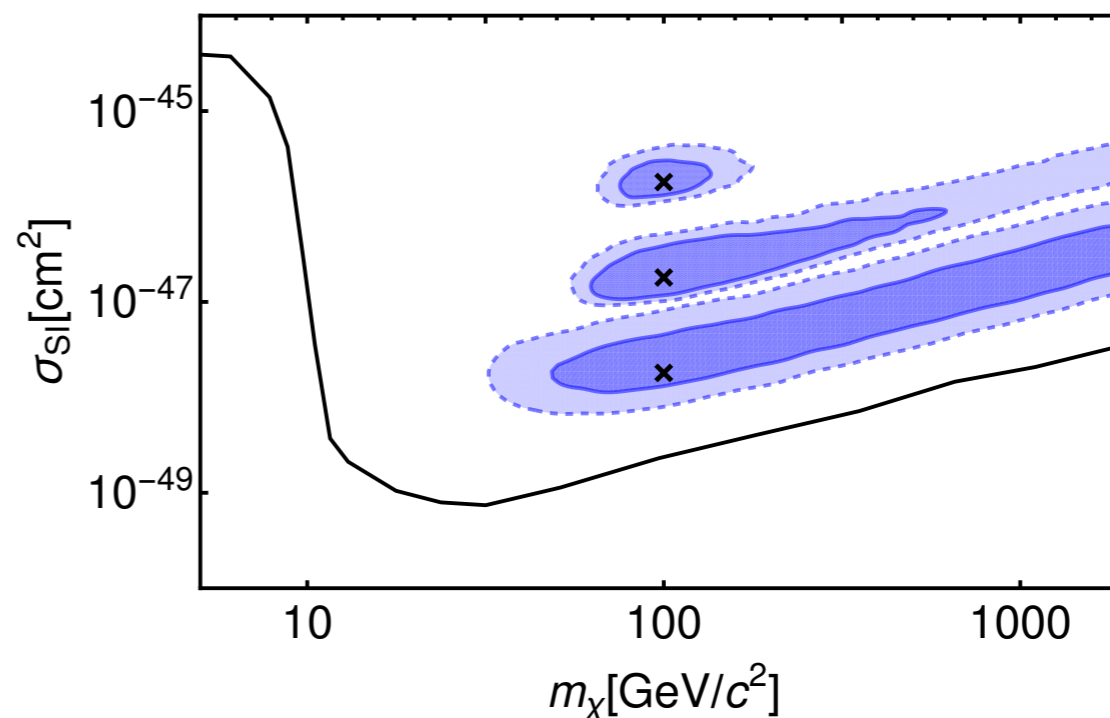
# DIRECT DARK MATTER DETECTION: WIMP SPECTROSCOPY

- ▶ Capability to reconstruct the WIMP mass and cross section for various masses - here 20, 100, 500  $\text{GeV}/c^2$  - and cross sections

Exposure: 200 t y



Exposure: 200 t y



1 and 2 sigma credible regions after marginalising the posterior probability distribution over:

$$v_{esc} = 544 \pm 40 \text{ km/s}$$

$$v_0 = 220 \pm 20 \text{ km/s}$$

$$\rho_\chi = 0.3 \pm 0.1 \text{ GeV/cm}^3$$

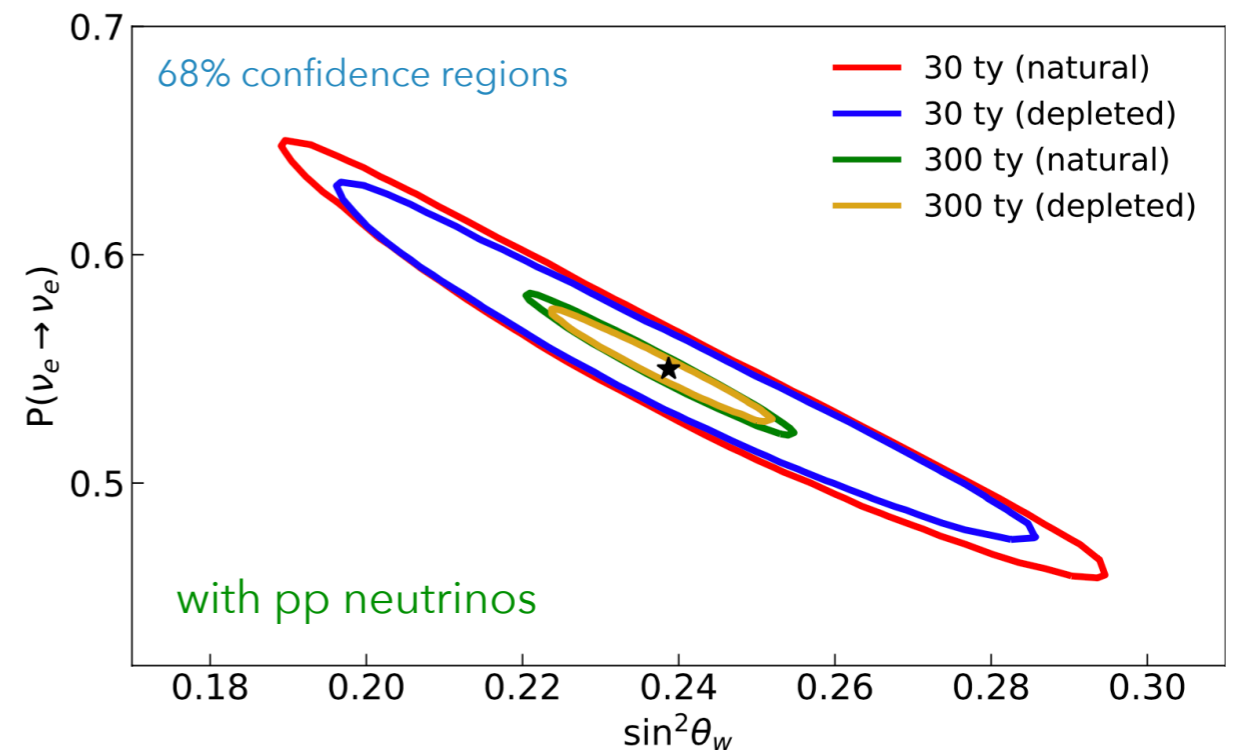
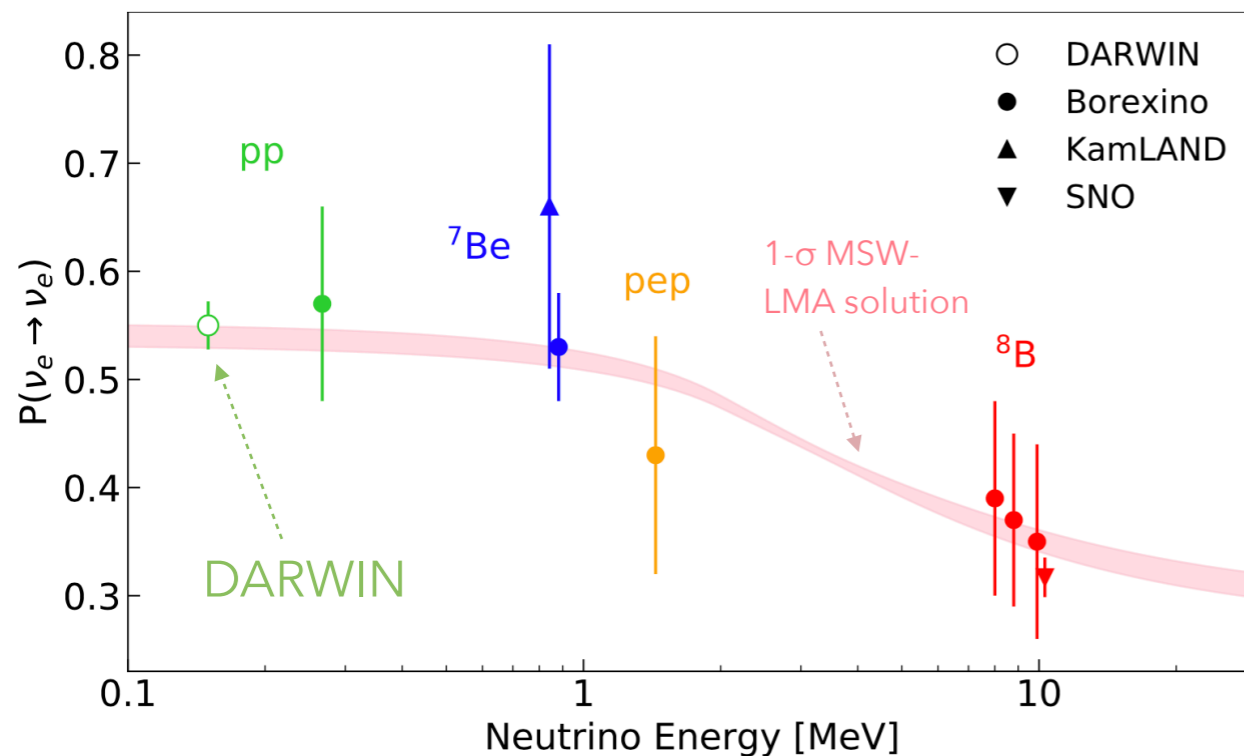
Update: Newstead et al., PRD D 88, 076011 (2013)

# SOLAR NEUTRINOS



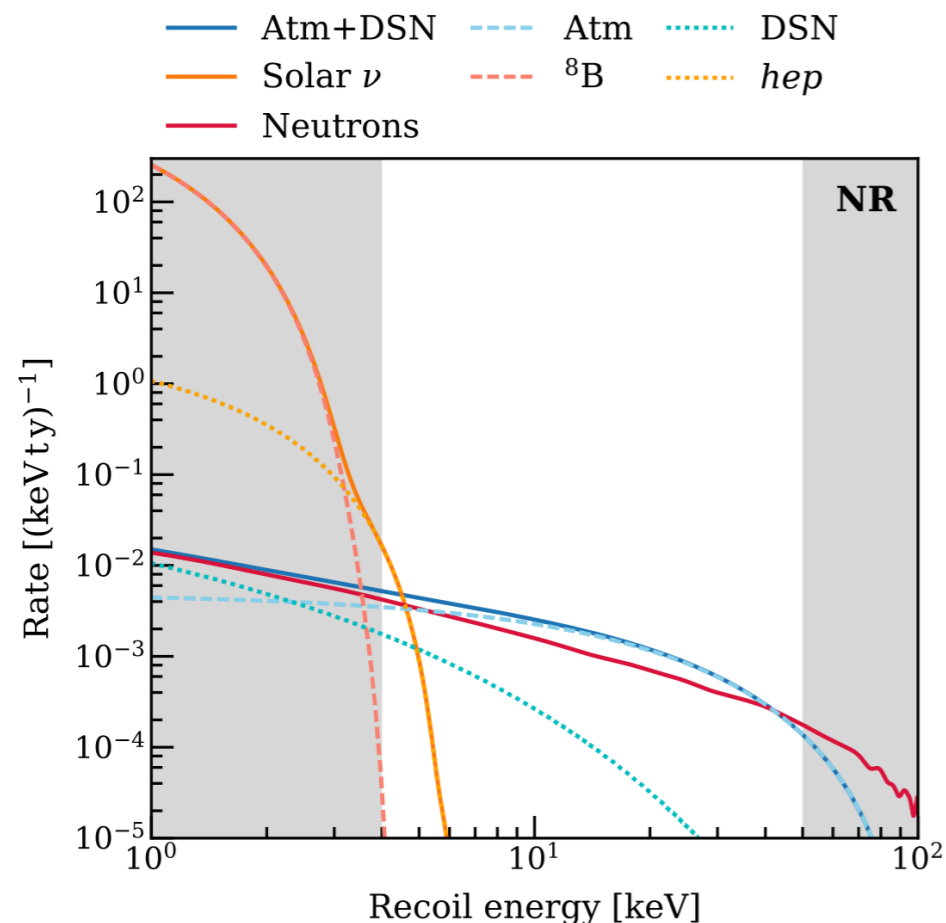
- ▶ Real-time measurement: 365 events/(t y) from pp  $\nu$  and 140 events/(t y) from  ${}^7\text{Be}$   $\nu$  (above 1 keV $_{ee}$ )
- ▶ pp-flux measurement: 0.15% statistical precision with 300 t y exposure (sub-percent after 10 t y)
- ▶ Measurement of  $\nu_e$  survival probability & weak mixing angle  $< 300$  keV

$$P(\nu_e \rightarrow \nu_e)$$

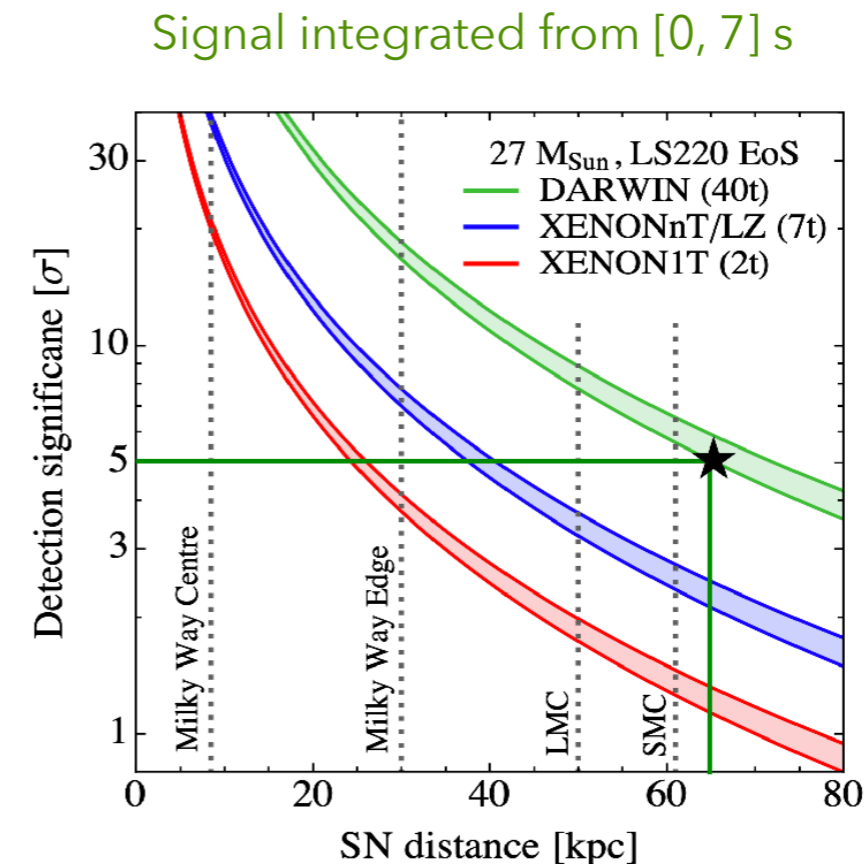


# COHERENT NEUTRINO NUCLEUS SCATTERS

- ▶ Detect solar  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos: 90 events for  $E_{\text{th}} > 1 \text{ keV}_{\text{nr}}$  (however  $\sim$ negligible above  $4 \text{ keV}_{\text{nr}}$ )
- ▶ Detect supernova neutrinos, sensitive to all neutrino flavours:
  - ◉  $\sim 700$  events from SN with  $27 M_{\text{solar}}$  @ 10 kpc
- ▶ Planned participation in SNEWS network



XENON collaboration, arXiv:2007.08796



R. Lang et al., PRD 94, 103009

# DOUBLE BETA DECAY IN DARWIN

- ▶  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ : excellent candidate
  - abundance in  $^{\text{nat}}\text{Xe}$ : 8.9%, Q-value:  $(2457.83 \pm 0.37)$  keV\*
- ▶ Total amount of  $^{136}\text{Xe}$  in DARWIN: **~3.5 tonnes**
- ▶ Expected (1- $\sigma$ ) energy resolution:
  - ~0.8% at 2.5 MeV, demonstrated by XENON1T
- ▶ Ultra-low background environment ( $^{222}\text{Rn}$ ,  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos,  $^{137}\text{Xe}$  from cosmogenic activation,  $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decays)

\*M. Redshaw et al., PRL 98, 2007:  $M(^{136}\text{Xe}) - M(^{136}\text{Ba}) = 2457.83(37)$



# BACKGROUND SIMULATIONS FOR DOUBLE BETA STUDY

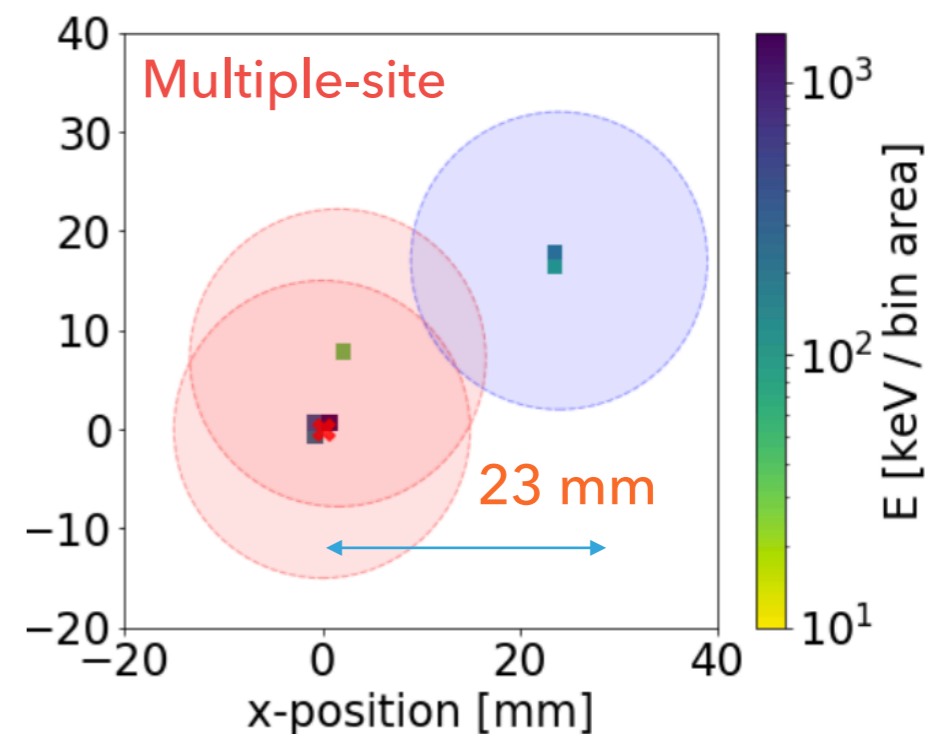
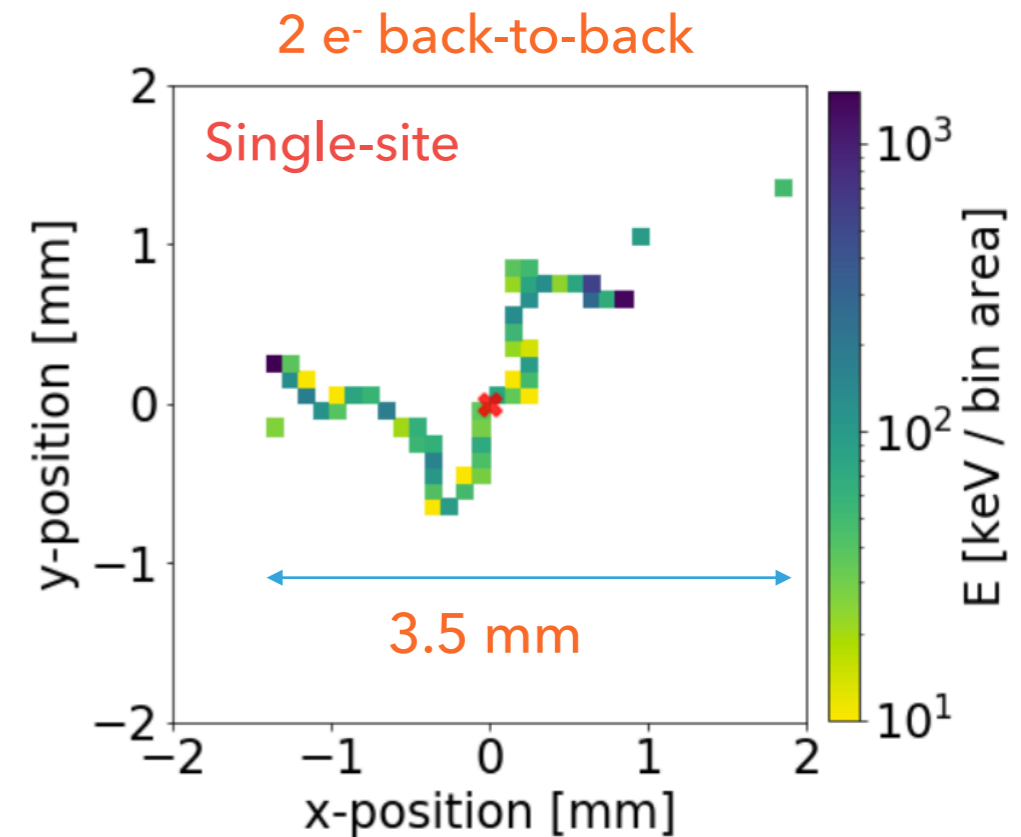
- ▶ Detailed detector model in Geant4

Component	Material	Mass	
Outer cryostat	Titanium	3.04 t	} Cryostat
Inner cryostat	Titanium	2.10 t	
Bottom pressure vessel	Titanium	0.38 t	
LXe instrumented target	LXe	39.3 t	} Xenon
LXe buffer outside the TPC	LXe	9.00 t	
LXe around pressure vessel	LXe	0.27 t	
GXe in top dome + TPC top	GXe	30 kg	
TPC reflector (3mm thickness)	PTFE	146 kg	} TPC components
Structural support pillars (24 units)	PTFE	84 kg	
Electrode frames	Titanium	120 kg	
Field shaping rings (92 units)	Copper	680 kg	
Photosensor arrays (2 disks):			} Photosensors and electronics
Disk structural support	Copper	520 kg	
Reflector + sliding panels	PTFE	70 kg	
Photosensors: 3" PMTs (1910 units)	composite	363 kg	
Sensor electronics (1910 units)	composite	5.7 kg	

# SIGNAL EVENTS IN LIQUID XENON

- ▶ Electrons thermalise within  $O(\text{mm}) \Rightarrow$  **single-site topology**
- ▶ Bremsstrahlung photons: may travel  $> 15\text{mm}$  ( $E > 300\text{ keV}$ )  $\Rightarrow$  **multi-site event**
- ▶ Energy depositions: **spatially grouped** using density-based spatial clustering algorithm
  - ⦿ New cluster, if distance to any previous  $E_{\text{dep}} > \varepsilon$  (separation threshold)

Assumption:  $\varepsilon = 15\text{ mm}$ ; 90% efficiency for  $\beta\beta$ -events



# MAIN BACKGROUND COMPONENTS

## ▶ Intrinsic:

- ▶  ${}^8\text{B}$   $\nu$ 's,  ${}^{137}\text{Xe}$ ,  $2\nu\beta\beta$ ,  ${}^{222}\text{Rn}$

## ▶ Materials:

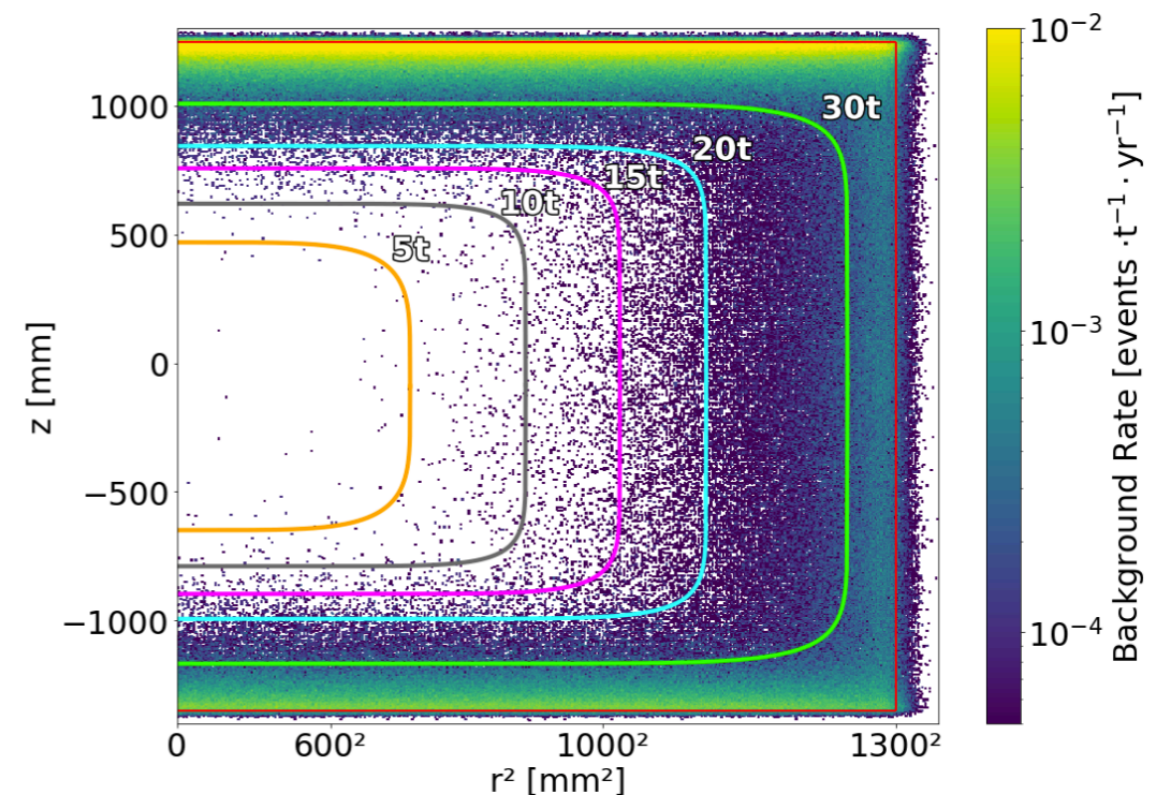
- ▶  ${}^{238}\text{U}$ ,  ${}^{232}\text{Th}$ ,  ${}^{60}\text{Co}$ ,  ${}^{44}\text{Ti}$

## ▶ FV cut: super-ellipsoidal

$$\left(\frac{z + z_0}{z_{max}}\right)^t + \left(\frac{r}{r_{max}}\right)^t < 1$$

100 y of DARWIN run time

External background events with energy deposits in the ROI [ $Q_{\beta\beta} \pm \text{FWHM}/2$ ] = [2435 - 2481] keV



Material	Unit	${}^{238}\text{U}$	${}^{226}\text{Ra}$	${}^{232}\text{Th}$	${}^{228}\text{Th}$	${}^{60}\text{Co}$	${}^{44}\text{Ti}$
Titanium	mBq/kg	<1.6	<0.09	0.28	0.25	<0.02	<1.16
PTFE	mBq/kg	<1.2	0.07	<0.07	0.06	0.027	-
Copper	mBq/kg	<1.0	<0.035	<0.033	<0.026	<0.019	-
PMT	mBq/unit	8.0	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.84	-
Electronics	mBq/unit	1.10	0.34	0.16	0.16	<0.008	-

${}^{44}\text{Ti}$ :  $T_{1/2} = 59$  y, cosmogenic

Ti: LZ, *Astrop. Phys.*, 96 (2017)

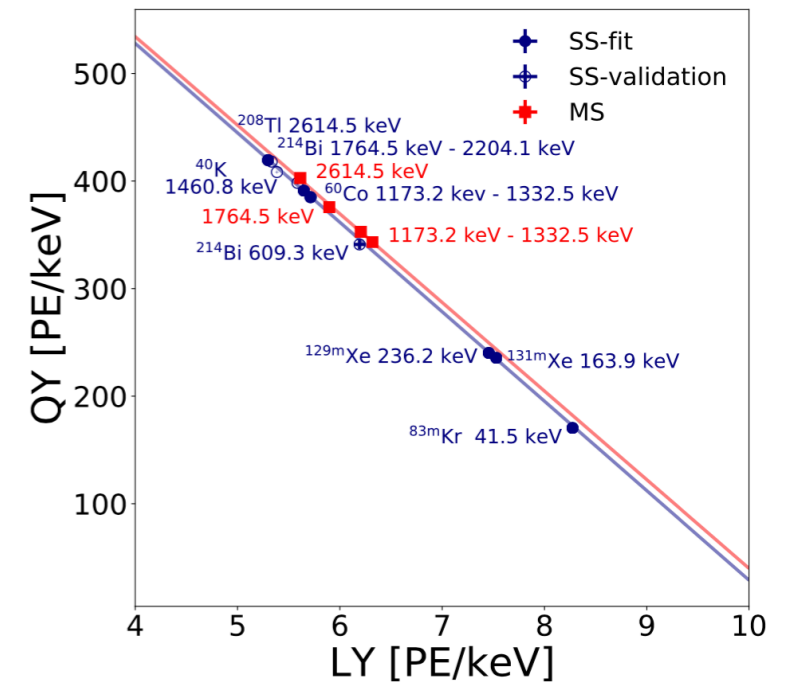
Other: XENON, *EPJ-C* 77 (2017)

# ENERGY RESOLUTION

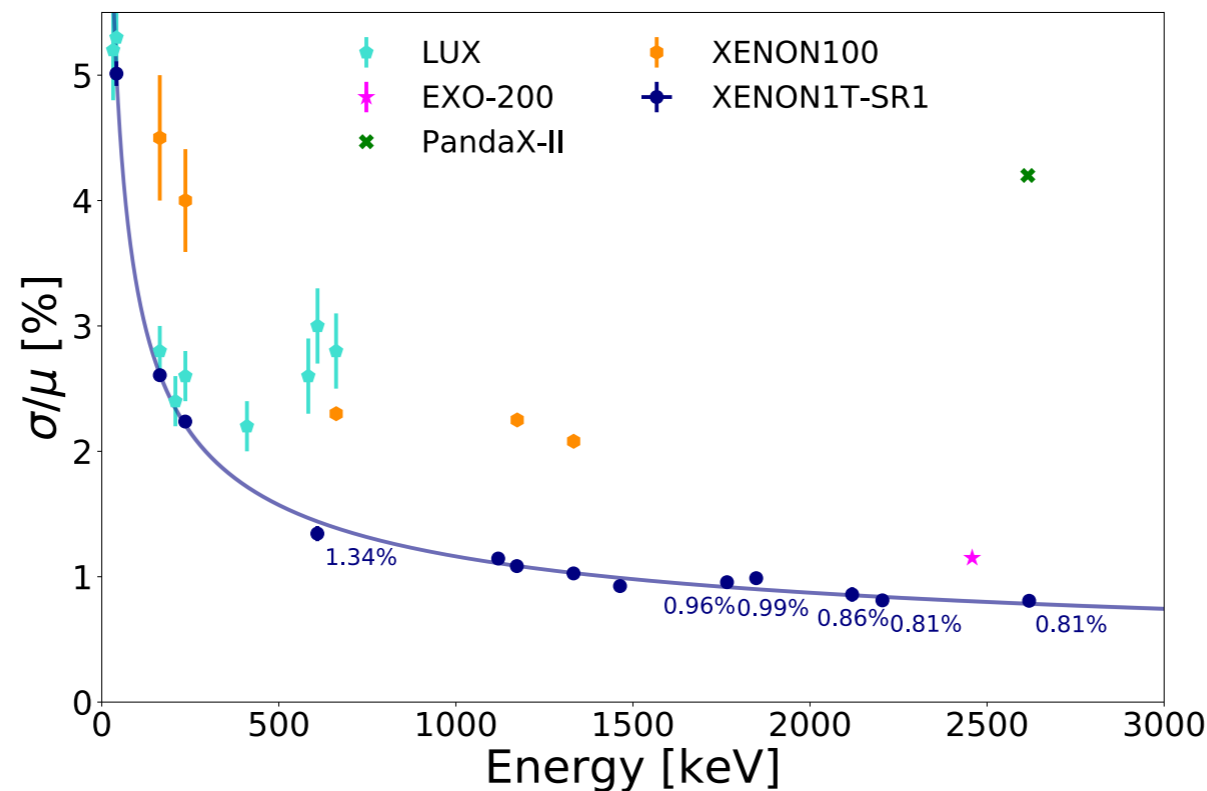
- ▶ Anti-correlation between light (S1) and charge (S2)
- ▶ Energy scale uses linear combination of S1 and S2
- ▶ Photon gain:  $g_1$  (pe/photon), electron gain:  $g_2$  (pe/electron)

$$E = (n_{ph} + n_e) \cdot W = \left( \frac{S_1}{g_1} + \frac{S_2}{g_2} \right) \cdot W$$

W-value = 13.7 eV



$$\frac{S_2}{E} = \frac{g_2}{W} - \frac{g_2}{g_1} \frac{S_1}{E}$$



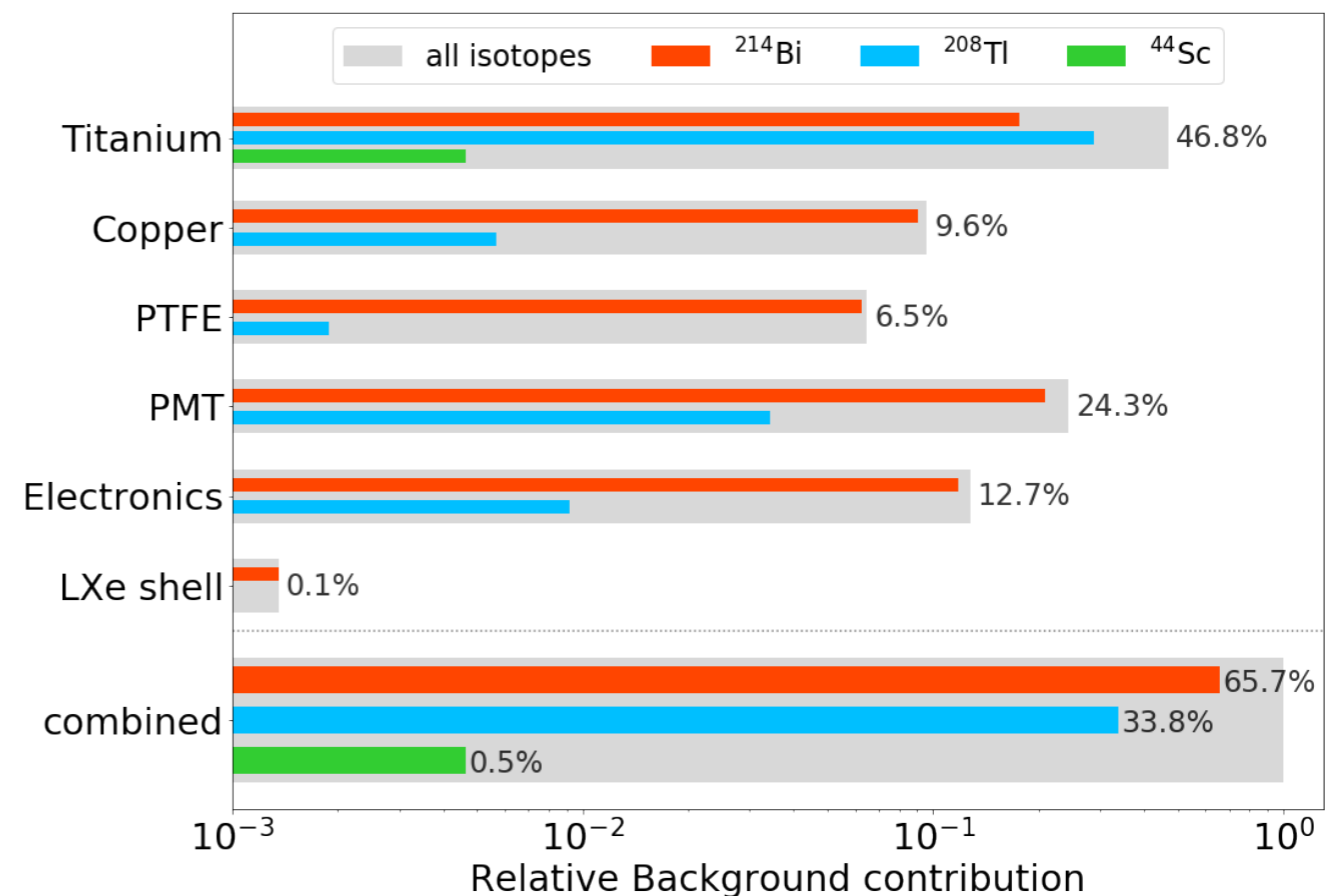
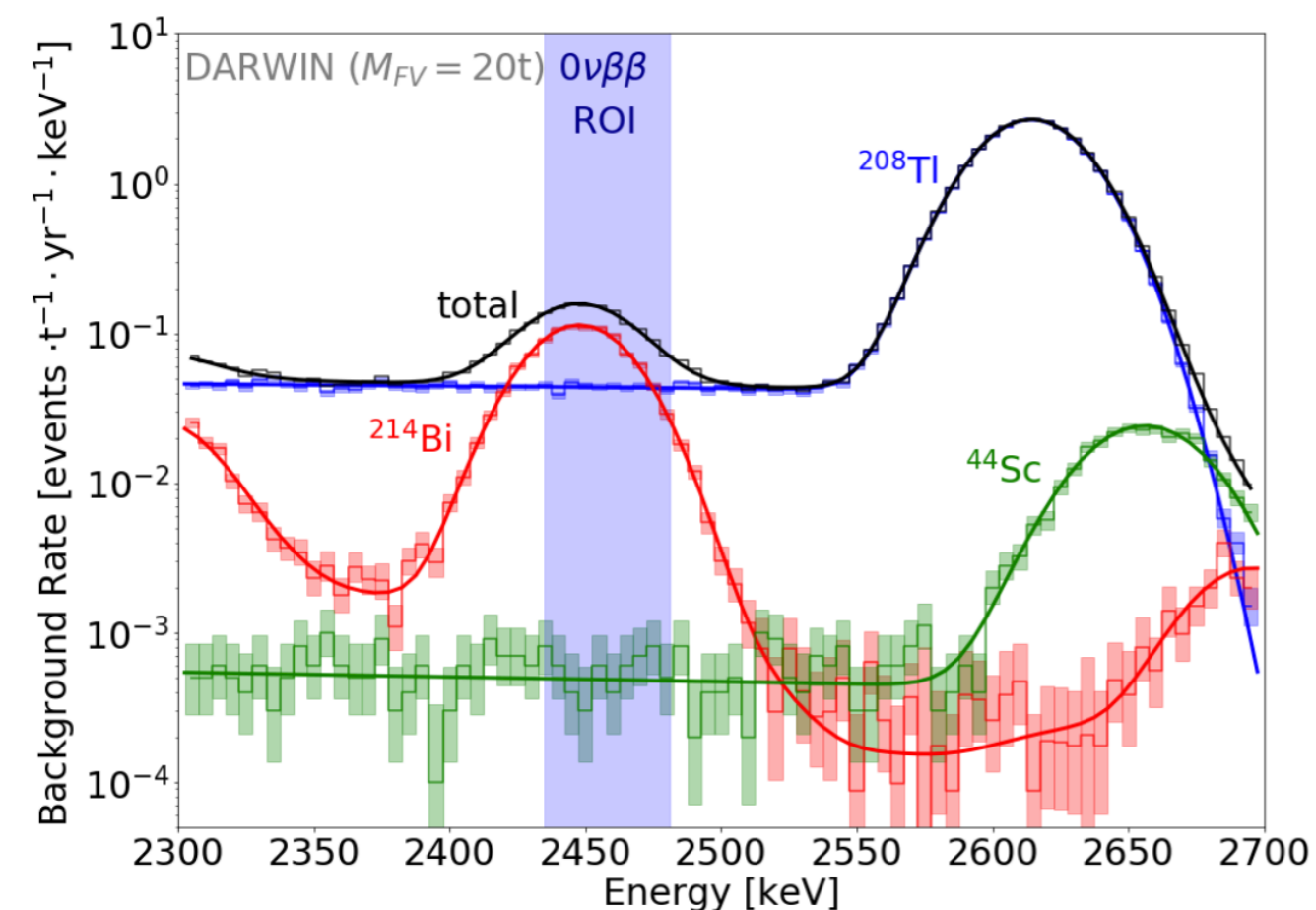
XENON collaboration, arXiv: 2003.03825, accepted in EPJ-C

Example for XENON1T:

$$\sigma/E \approx 0.8\% \text{ at } Q_{\beta\beta}$$

# EXTERNAL (MATERIAL) BACKGROUND

- ▶ ROI: [2435-2481] keV = FWHM around  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- ▶  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ :  $\gamma$  at 2.45 MeV,  $^{208}\text{Tl}$ ,  $\gamma$  at 2.61 MeV;  $^{44}\text{Sc}$ ,  $\gamma$  at 2.66 MeV

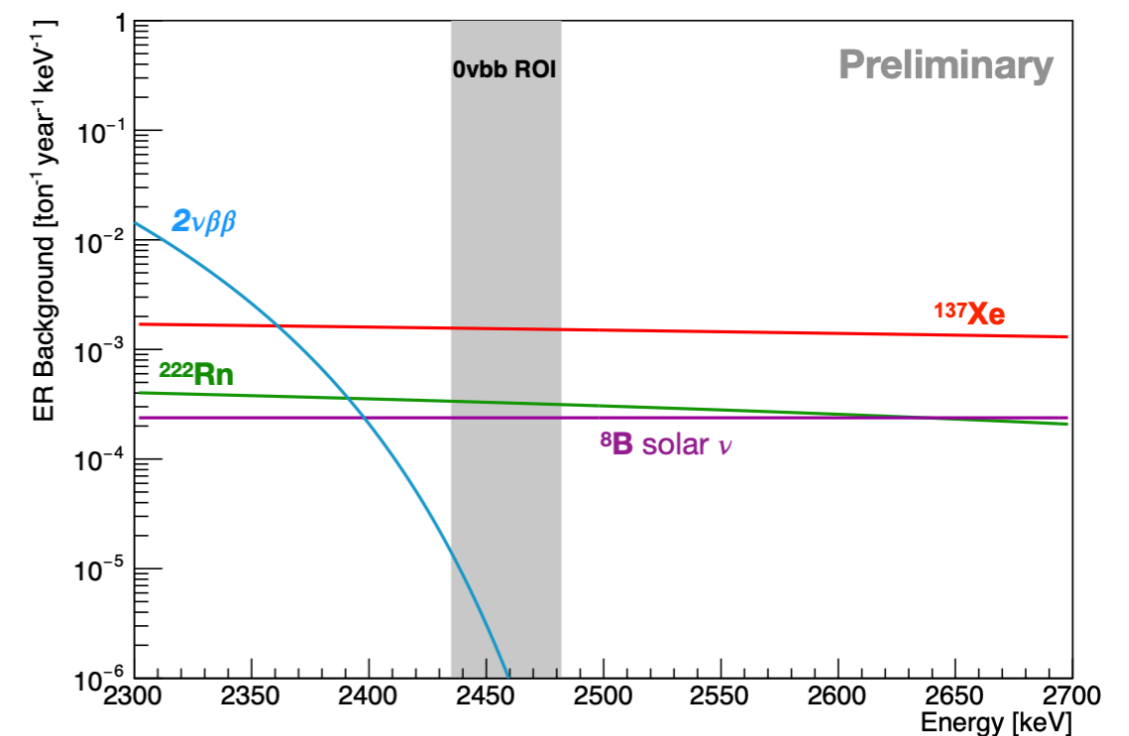


20 tones of LXe in fiducial volume

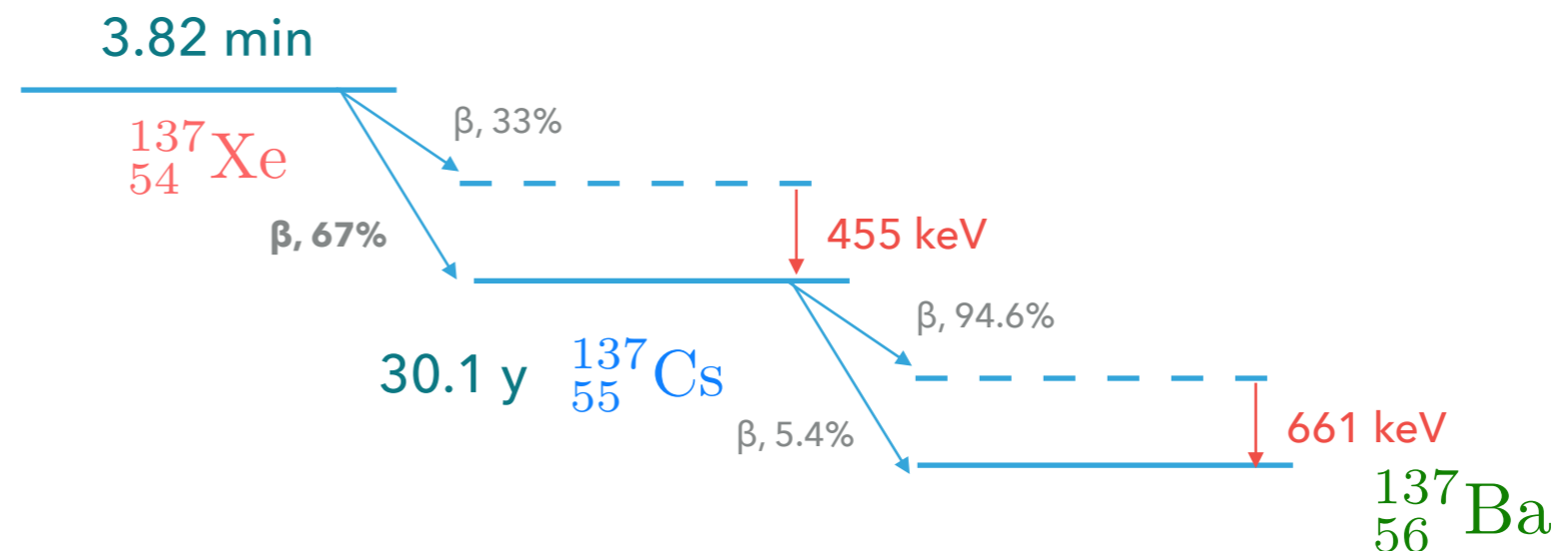
# INTERNAL BACKGROUNDS

- ▶  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  in LXe:
  - $0.1\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ , 99.8% BiPo tagging
- ▶  $^8\text{B}$  solar neutrinos
  - $\Phi_{\nu e} = (5.46 \pm 0.66) \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$
  - $P_{ee} = 0.50$
- ▶  $2\nu\beta\beta$ -decay: subdominant
- ▶  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ : cosmogenic activation underground
  - $n + ^{136}\text{Xe} \rightarrow ^{137}\text{Xe}$

$^{137}\text{Xe}$ :  $(6.9 \pm 0.4) \text{ atoms}/(\text{t y})$



$T_{1/2} = 3.82 \text{ min}$   
 $Q\text{-value: } 4173 \text{ keV}$



# RADON BACKGROUND

## ▶ Assumption:

- 0.1  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$   $^{222}\text{Rn}$  (cryogenic distillation + material selection)

## ▶ Problematic:

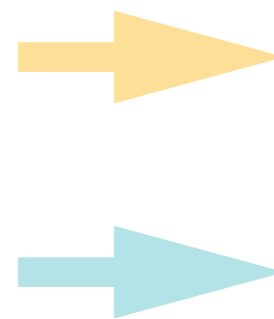
- $^{214}\text{Bi}$  decay,  $Q$ -value = 3.27 MeV, "naked"  $\beta$ -decay without  $\gamma$  emission: 19.1% BR

## ▶ $^{214}\text{Po}$ :

- $\alpha$ -decay with short half-life,  $T_{1/2} = 164.3 \mu\text{s} \Rightarrow$  active veto for  $^{214}\text{Bi}$ -decays

## ▶ Assumption:

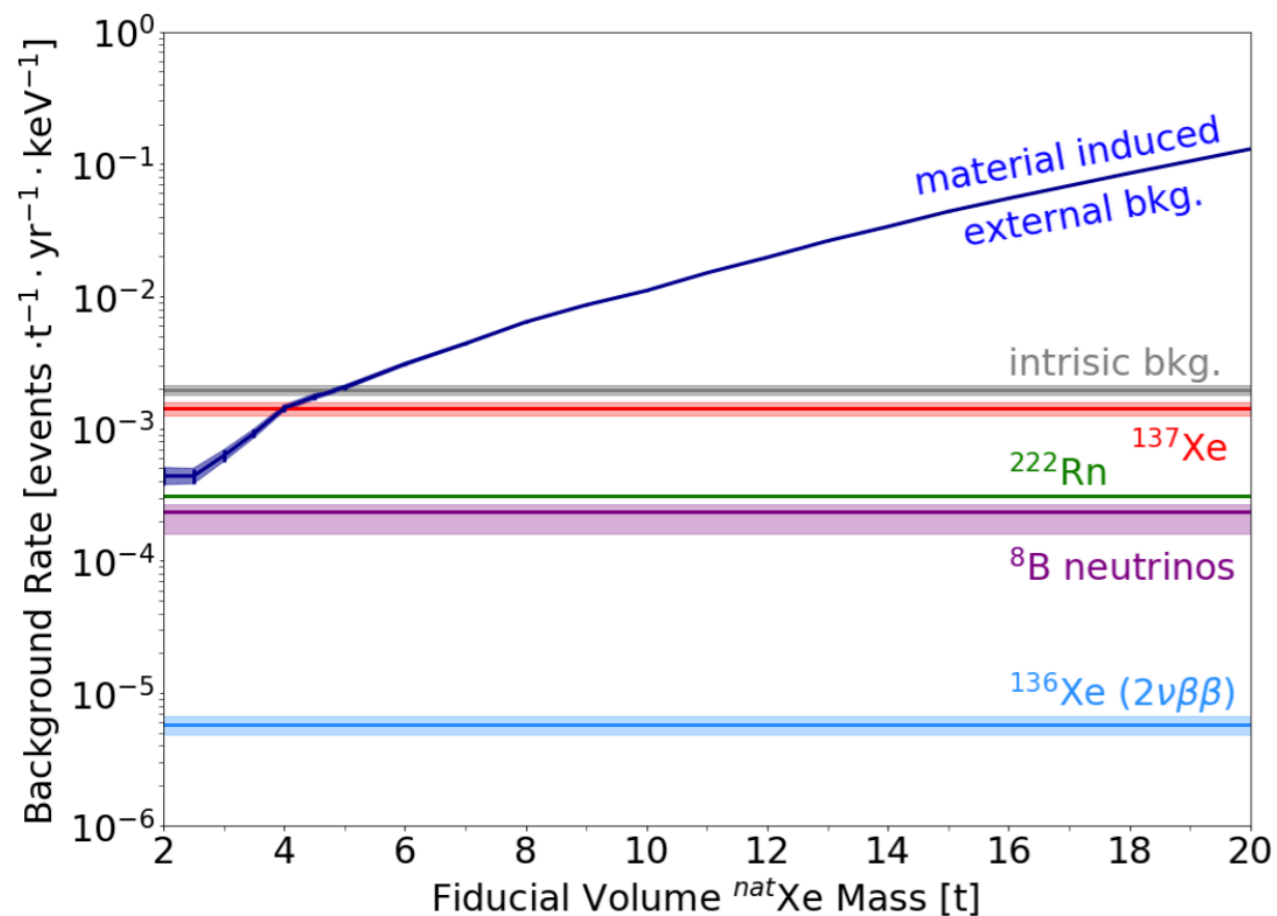
- 99.8% BiPo tagging efficiency



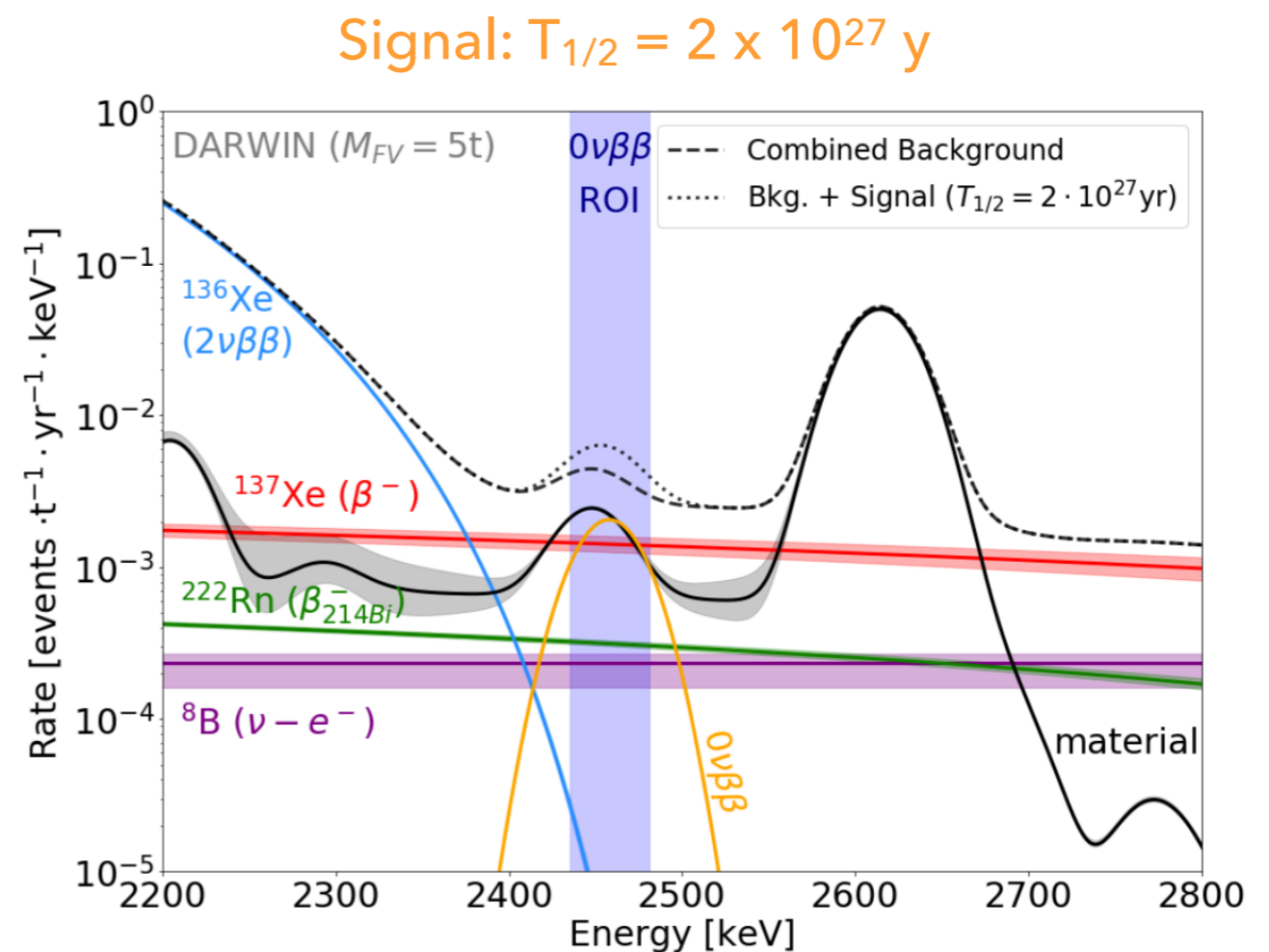
$^{222}\text{Rn}$	3.8 d
$\alpha$	↓ 5.5 MeV
$^{218}\text{Po}$	3.05 min
$\alpha$	↓ 6.0 MeV
$^{214}\text{Pb}$	26.8 min
$\beta$	↓
$^{214}\text{Bi}$	19.9 min
$\beta$	↓
$^{214}\text{Po}$	164 $\mu\text{s}$
$\alpha$	↓
$^{210}\text{Pb}$	22.3 y
$\beta$	↓
$^{210}\text{Bi}$	5.0 d
$\beta$	↓
$^{210}\text{Po}$	138 d
$\alpha$	↓
$^{206}\text{Pb}$	stable

# MATERIAL + INTRINSIC BACKGROUND

- ▶ ROI: [2435-2481] keV = FWHM around  $Q_{\beta\beta}$
- ▶  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ :  $\beta$ -decay with  $Q=4173$  keV,  $T_{1/2}=3.82$  min (via n-capture on  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )



Rate versus fiducial mass

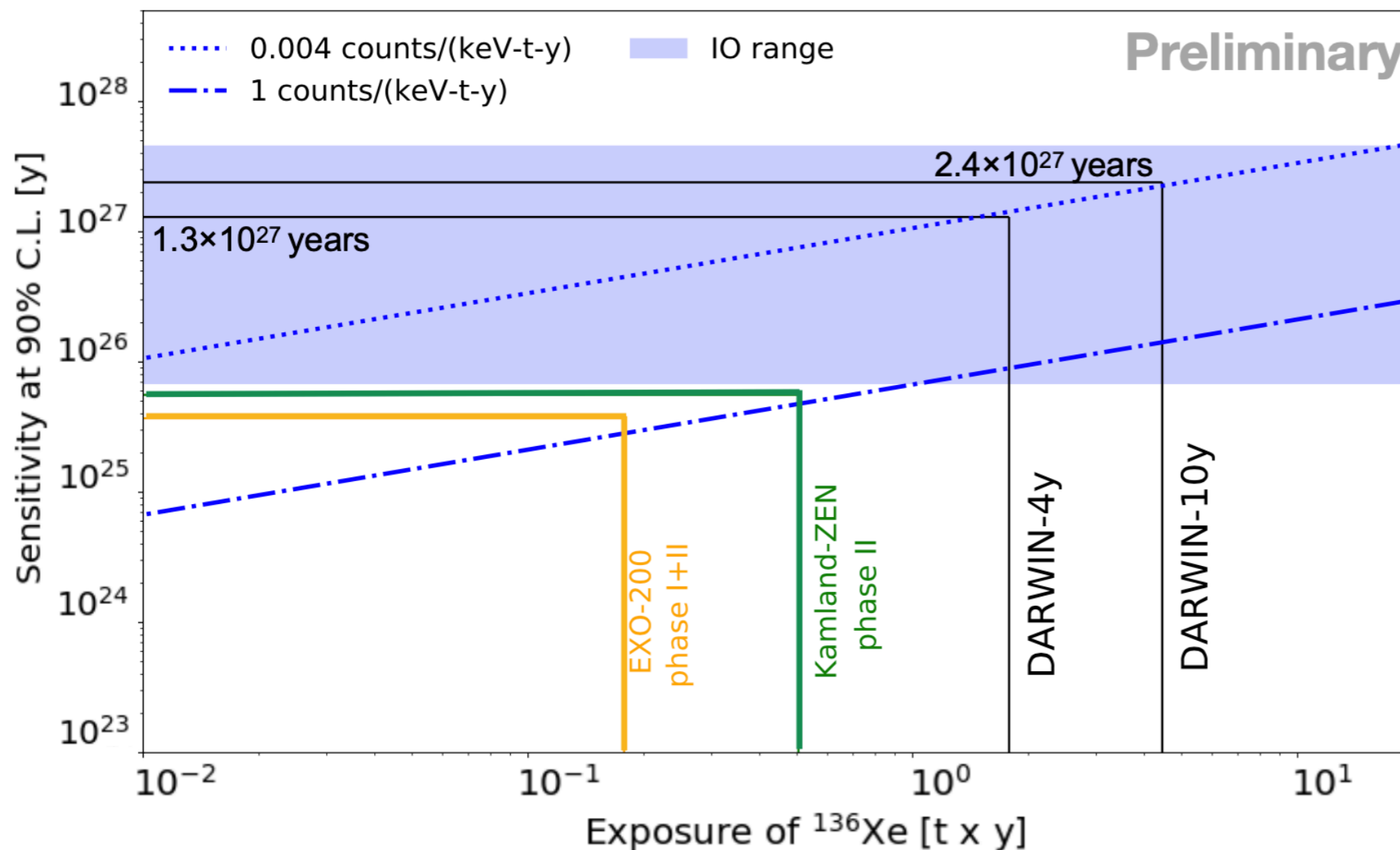


Rate in 5 tonnes fiducial region (0.45 t  $^{136}\text{Xe}$ )



# DOUBLE BETA DECAY SENSITIVITY

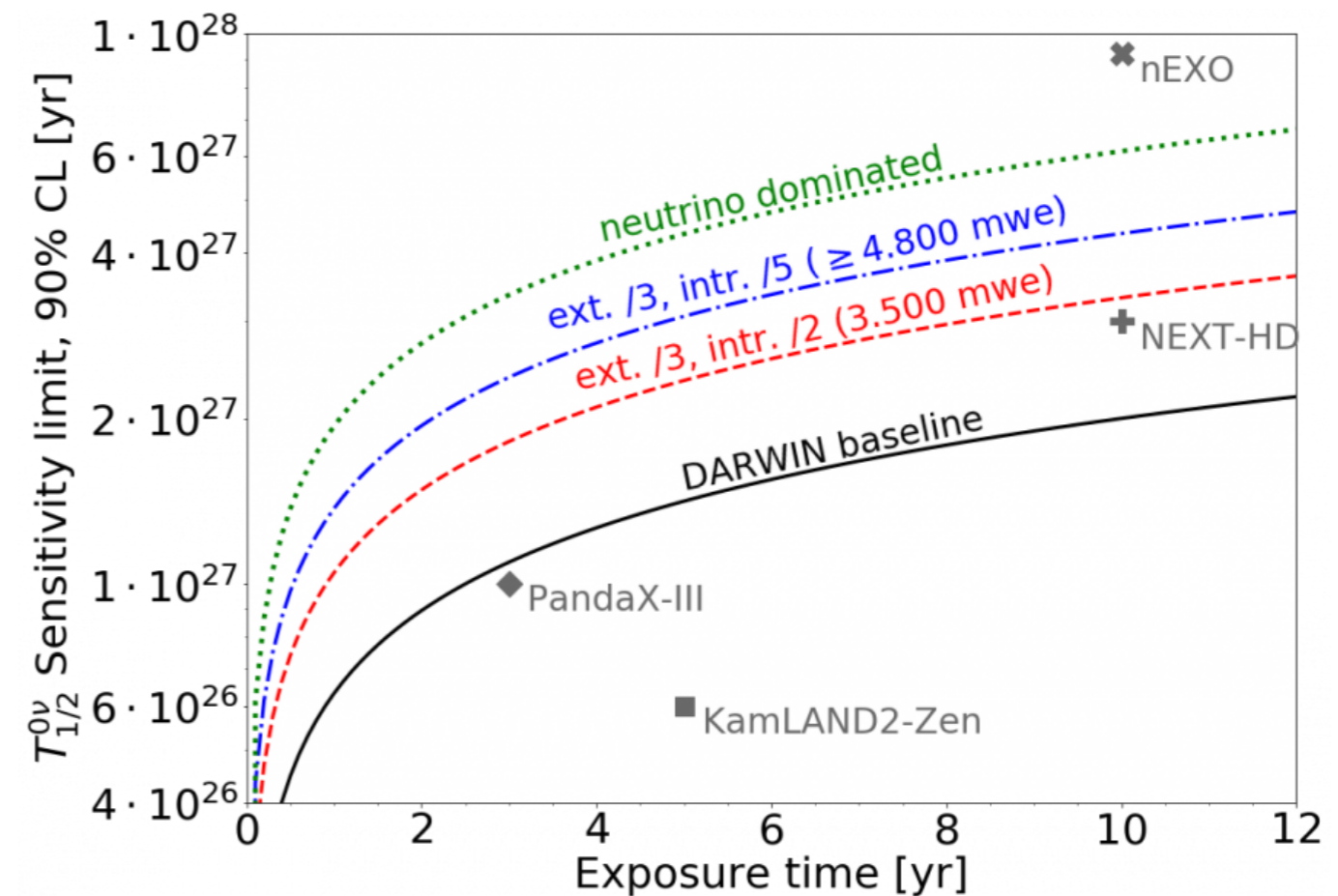
- ▶ Profile likelihood analysis, baseline  $T_{1/2}$  sensitivity:
- ▶  $2.4 \times 10^{27}$  y for 5 t fiducial mass x 10 y exposure (90% CL)



Discovery potential:  
 $1.1 \times 10^{27}$  y at  $3\text{-}\sigma$

# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT?

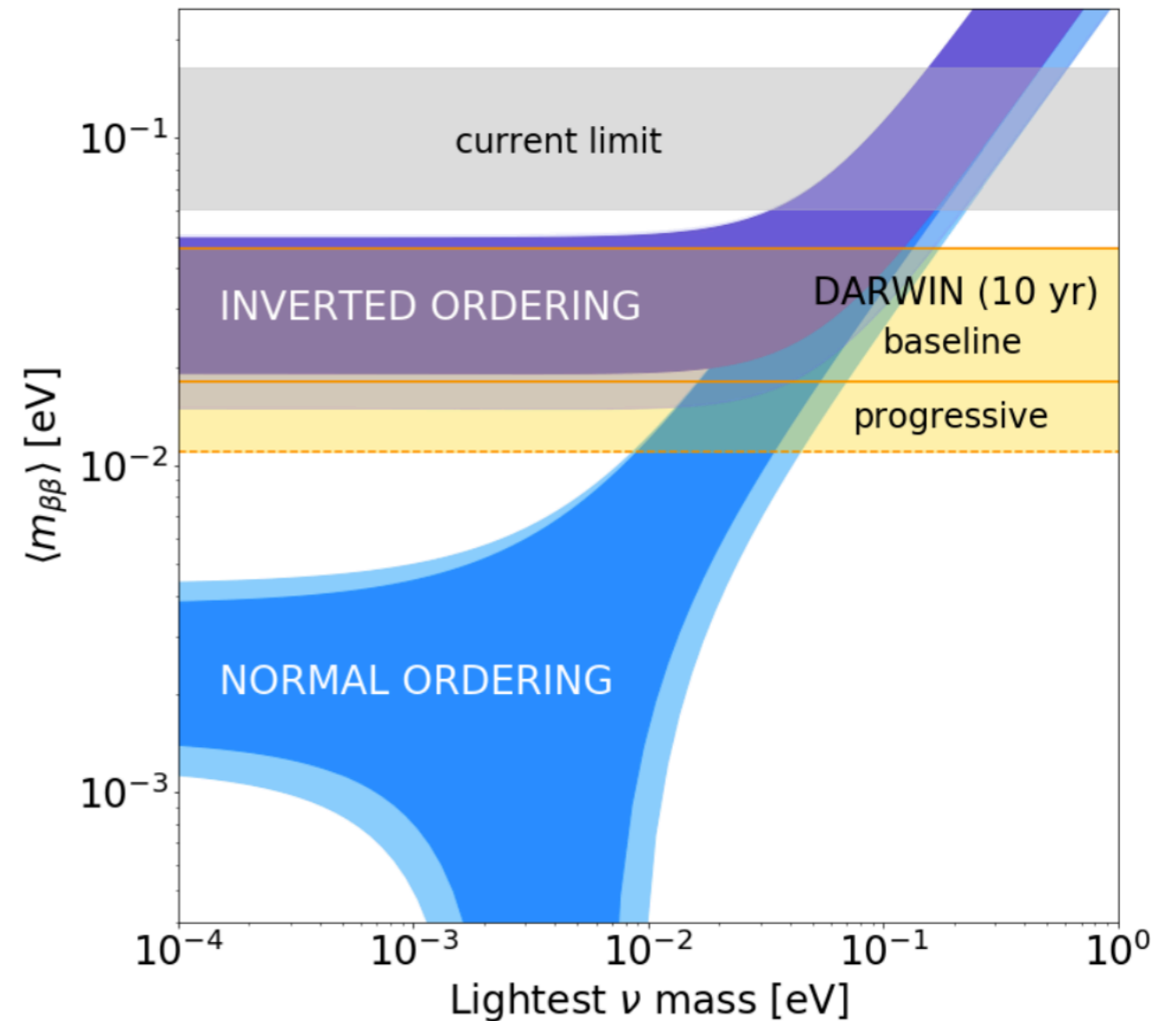
- ▶ Reduce external backgrounds
  - ▶ SiPMs, cleaner materials & electronics
- ▶ Reduce internal background
  - ▶ Time veto for  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , deeper lab, BiPo tagging
- ▶ Improve signal/background discrimination; resolution...



DARWIN could reach  $\sim 6 \times 10^{27}$  y sensitivity

# ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT?

- ▶ Reduce external backgrounds
  - ▶ SiPMs, cleaner materials & electronics
- ▶ Reduce internal background
  - ▶ Time veto for  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , deeper lab, BiPo tagging
- ▶ Improve signal/background discrimination; resolution...



Baseline:  $m_{\beta\beta} = (18 - 46) \text{ meV}$

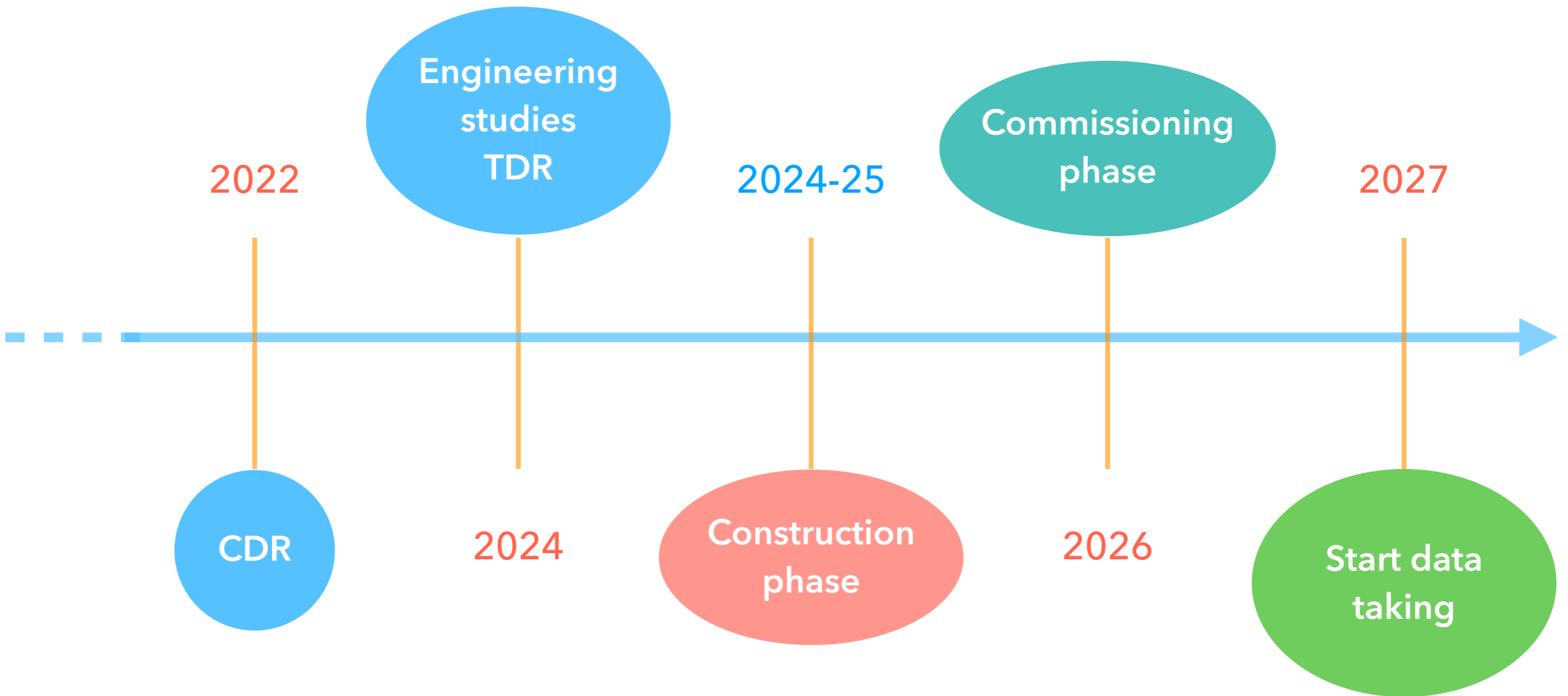
Progressive:  $m_{\beta\beta} = (11 - 28) \text{ meV}$

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

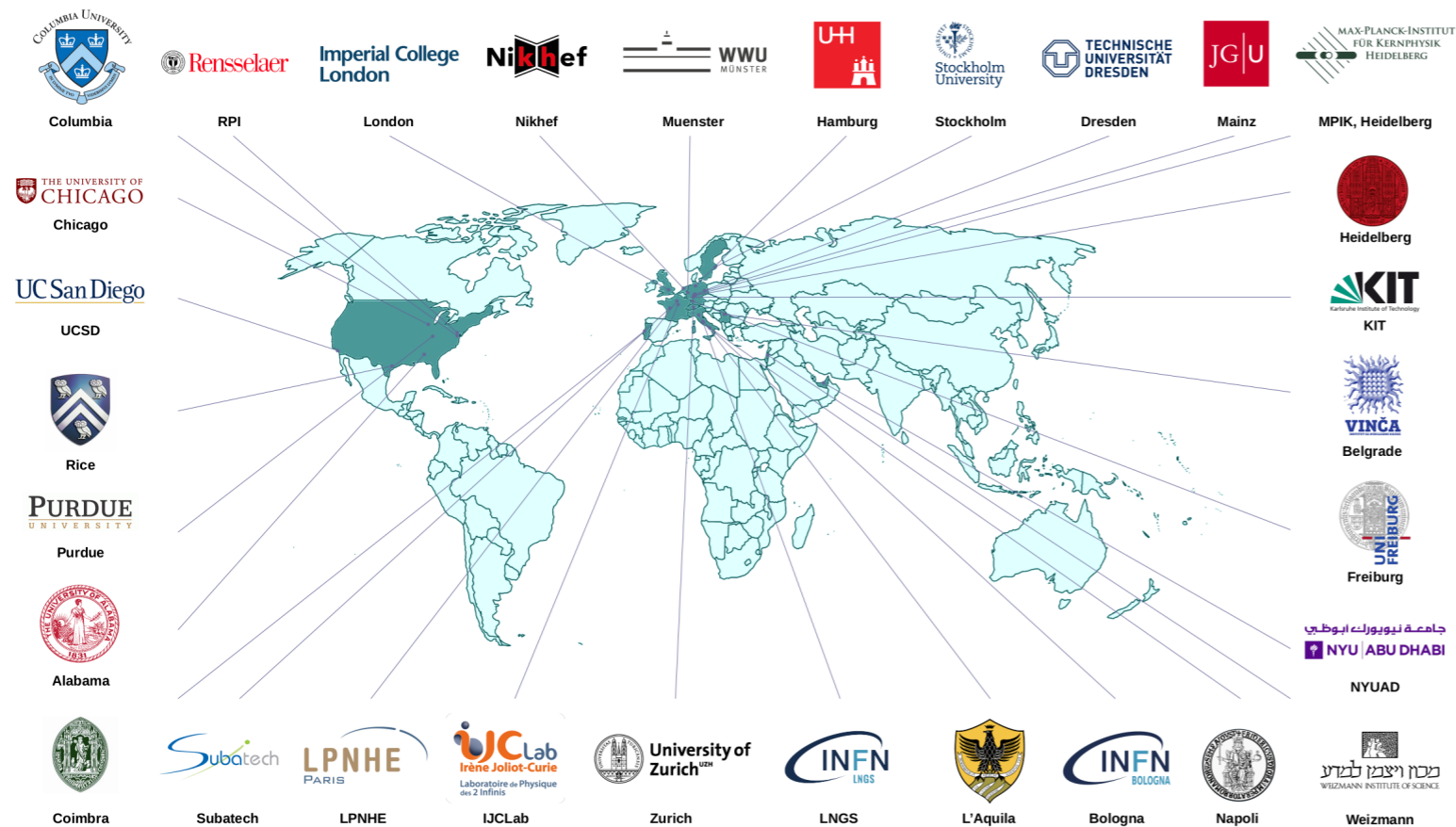
- ▶ 30 groups from 12 countries , working towards CDR and TDR
- ▶ R&D and design on several aspects:
  - ▶ Detector including cryostat & TPC
  - ▶ Light and charge sensors & readout
  - ▶ Backgrounds (incl. Rn/Kr removal, materials) & veto
  - ▶ LXe procurement, storage, purification & cryogenics
  - ▶ Xenon properties and calibration of 50 t detector

# DARWIN TIMESCALE



# THE DARWIN COLLABORATION

- ▶ About 170 members from 30 institutions in Europe, USA and Asia
- ▶ Latest groups to join: University of Alabama (Igor Ostrovsky), University of Hamburg (Belina von Krosigk), University of L'Aquila (Alfredo Ferella), University of Naples (Michele Iacovacci)



LNGS, December 2019



# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

- ▶ Two large-scale demonstrators in construction (z & x-y) supported by ERC grants
- ▶ These also offer test platforms for the entire collaboration
- ▶ Smaller TPCs are operated at various institutions



Test  $e^-$  drift over 2.6 m (purification, high-voltage)



Universität  
Zürich UZH



Test electrodes and homogeneity of extraction field



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES



Test  $e^-$  drift over 2.6 m (purification, high-voltage)

Test electrodes and homogeneity of extraction field

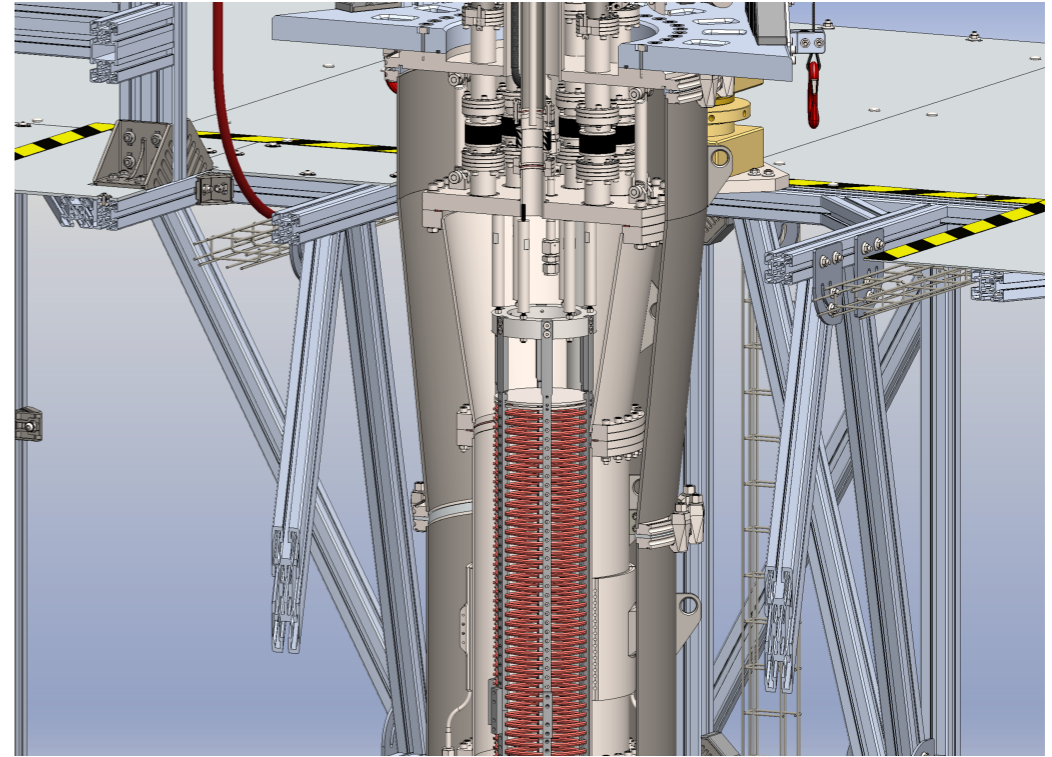
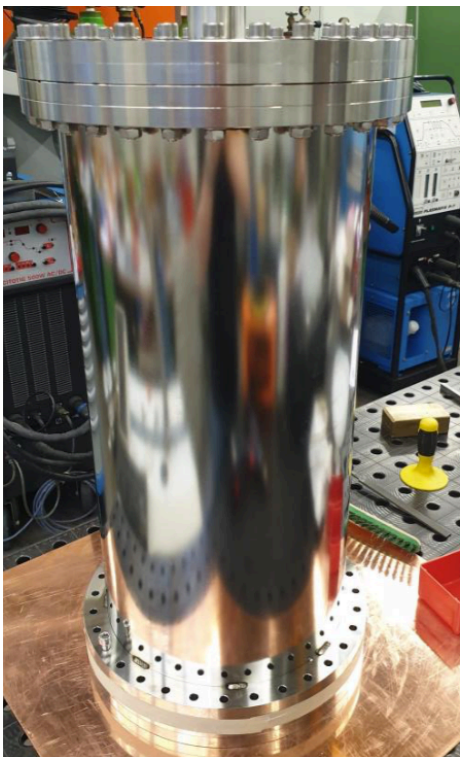




European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

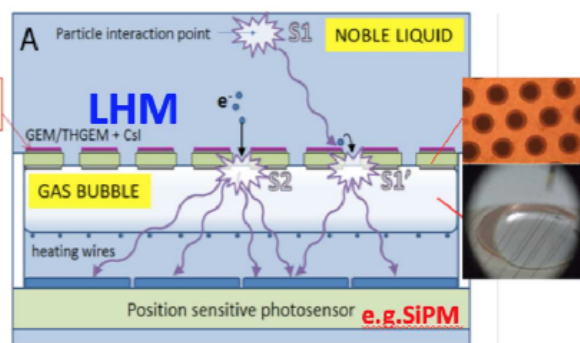
# DETECTOR PROTOTYPES: XENOSCOPE

- ▶ Under construction at UZH, first commissioning in late 2020
- ▶ Support structure, gas system, cryostat, cooling tower, electrical system, etc completed
- ▶ HV feed-through, TPC and purity monitor under design/construction
- ▶ Goals: test 200 V/cm drift field, 100 slpm purification speed, measure  $e^-$  cloud diffusion, etc

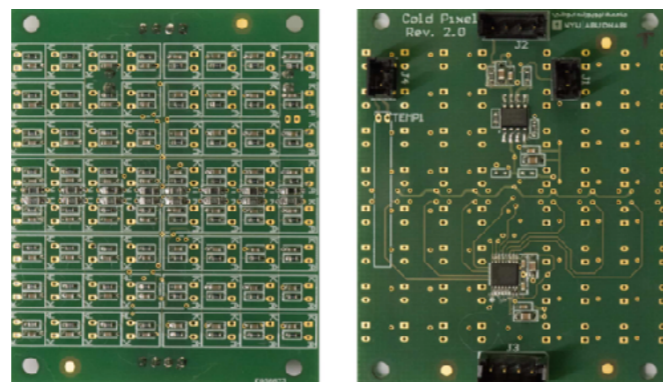


# LIGHT AND CHARGE SENSORS AND READOUT

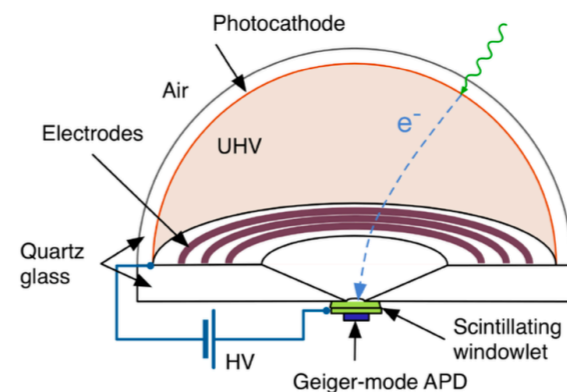
- ▶ Test alternative to PMTs: e.g., ABALONE (hybrid photosensor), VUV-SiPMs (FBK, Hamamatsu)
- ▶ Develop cryogenic electronics for SiPMs; develop cryogenic digital SiPMs
- ▶ Bubble-assisted Liquid Hole Multipliers: local vapour bubble underneath GEM-like perforated electrode in LXe



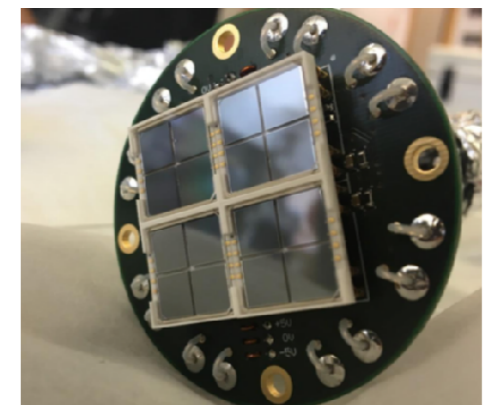
Liquid hole multipliers  
E. Erdal, 2018 JINST 13, 2018



Cryogenic preamp for SiPMs, F. Arneodo et al., NIM 936, 2019



ABALONE, D. Ferenc et al., NIM 954, 2020

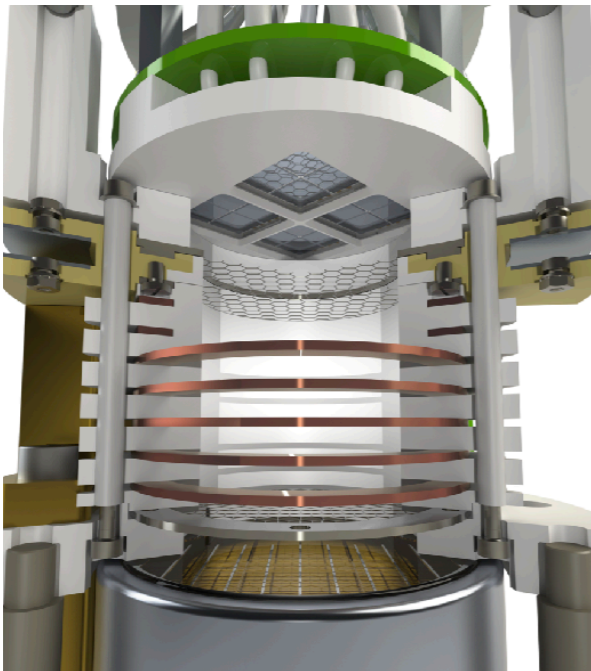


Hamamatsu SiPM arrays in two-phase TPC, LB et al., EPJ-C 80, 2020

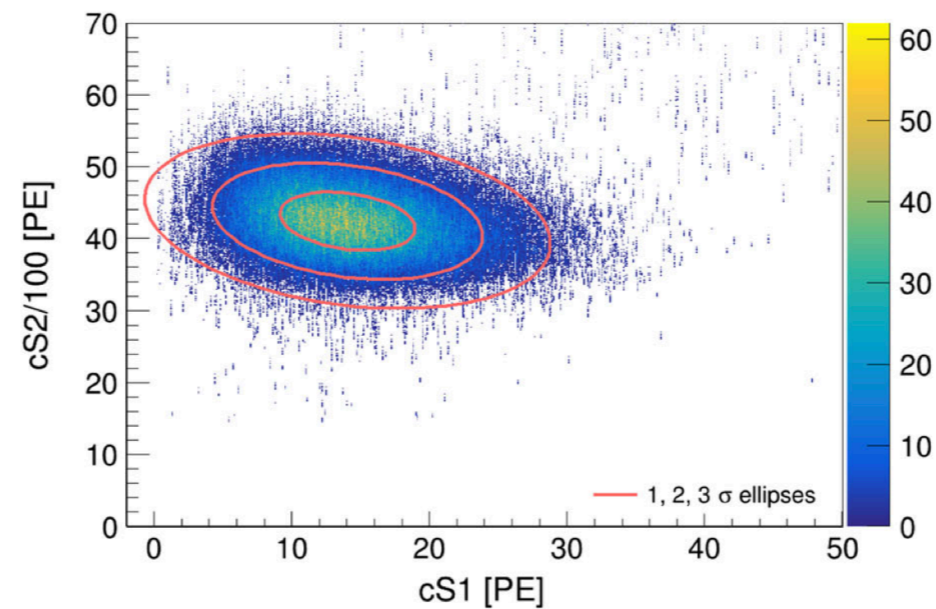
# LIGHT AND CHARGE SENSORS AND READOUT

- ▶ Test VUV-sensitive SiPMs as potential replacement for PMTs
- ▶ First Xe-TPC with SiPM in top array at UZH
- ▶ Characterisation with  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  and  $^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$  sources

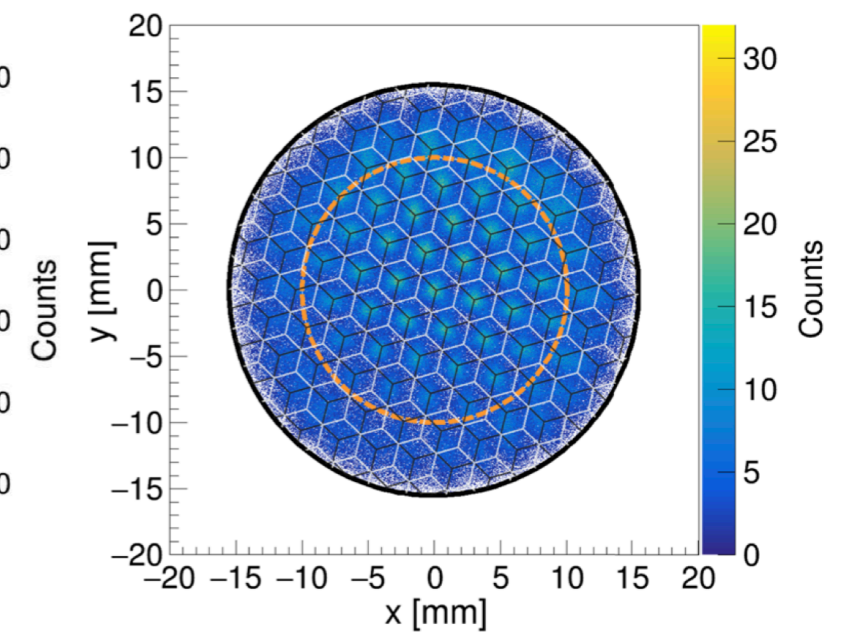
## Characterisation with $^{37}\text{Ar}$ source



Upgrade of Xurich-II (LB et al., EPJ-C 80, 2020 and EPJ- C 78, 2018)



S2 versus S1 for the 2.82 keV  $^{37}\text{Ar}$  line (K-shell, 90.2% BR)



x-y position reconstruction  
~ 1.5 mm resolution

# SUMMARY

- ▶ DARWIN observatory: excellent sensitivity in particle/astroparticle physics
- ▶ Due to very low expected event rates, we need:
  - ◎ Large detector masses, ultra-low backgrounds (material radio-assay & Rn reduction remain crucial)
  - ◎ Very good energy resolutions, low energy thresholds
- ▶ In general: dark matter detectors are optimised at keV energy scales, double beta decay detectors at MeV-scale energies
  - ◎ Can we do both? Ideally, a large detector (DARWIN) with sensitivity to search for a variety of signals in particles physics (neutrinos,  $0\nu\beta\beta$ , axion/ALPs, dark photons, WIMPs, etc)
- ▶ Eventually limited by neutrino interactions (but also new physics opportunities!)
- ▶ Remember that yesterday's background might be today's signal ;-)

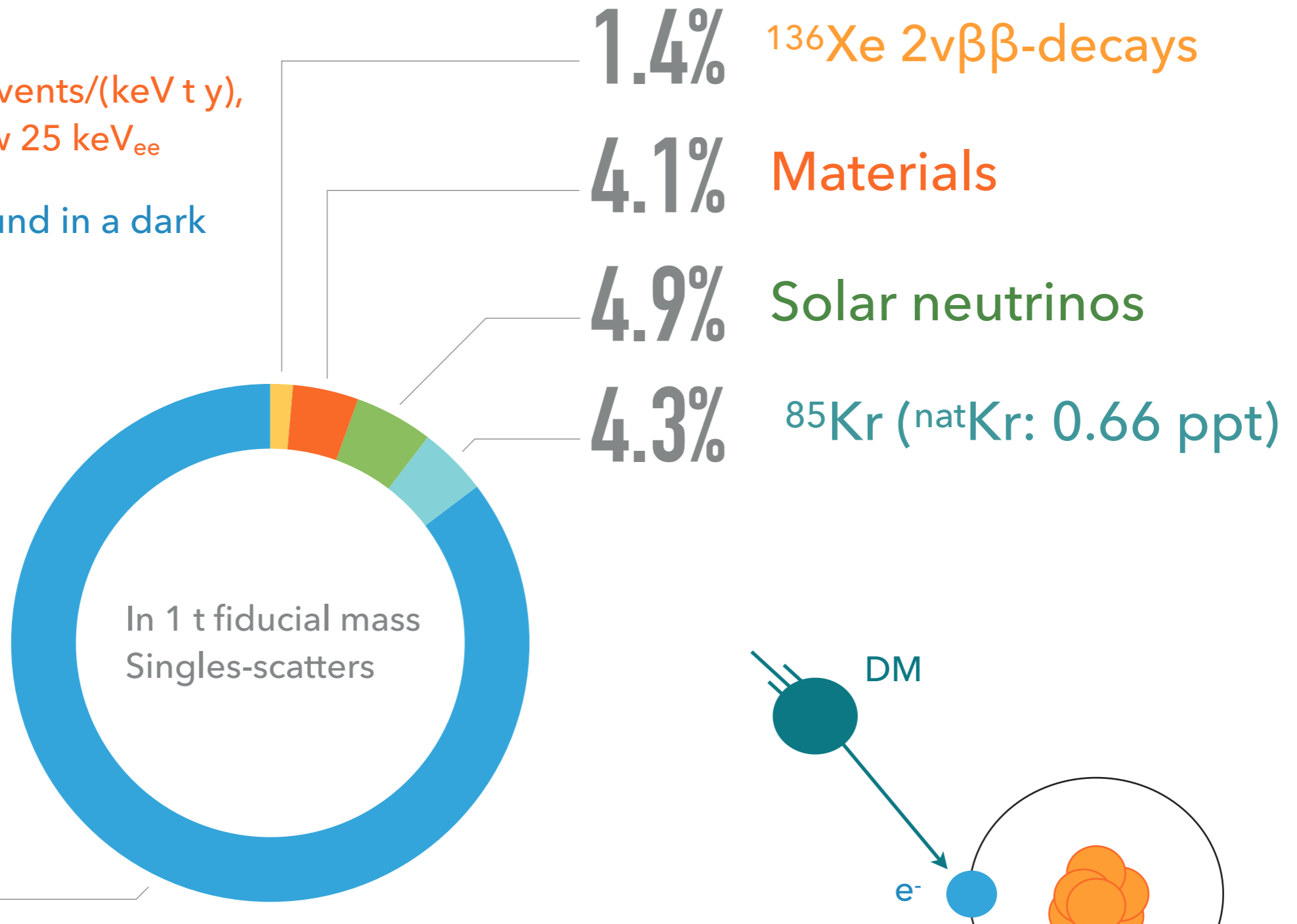
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# BACKUP SLIDES

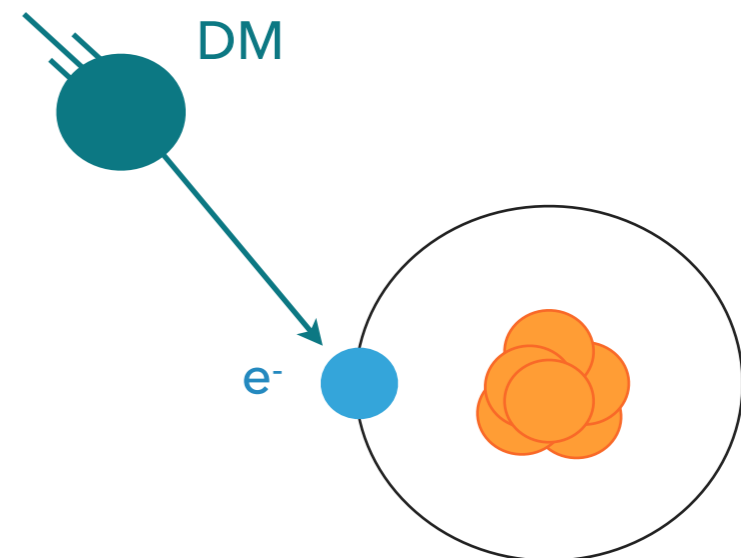
## BACKGROUND BUDGET IN DOUBLE BETA REGION

Background source	Background index [events/(t·yr·keV )]	Rate [events/yr]	Rel. uncertainty
<i>External sources (5 t FV):</i>			
$^{214}\text{Bi}$ peaks + continuum	$1.36 \times 10^{-3}$	0.313	$\pm 3.6\%$
$^{208}\text{Tl}$ continuum	$6.20 \times 10^{-4}$	0.143	$\pm 4.9\%$
$^{44}\text{Sc}$ continuum	$4.64 \times 10^{-6}$	0.001	$\pm 15.8\%$
<i>Intrinsic contributions:</i>			
$^8\text{B}$ ( $\nu - e$ scattering)	$2.36 \times 10^{-4}$	0.054	+13.9%, -32.2%
$^{137}\text{Xe}$ ( $\mu$ -induced $n$ -capture)	$1.42 \times 10^{-3}$	0.327	$\pm 12.0\%$
$^{136}\text{Xe}$ $2\nu\beta\beta$	$5.78 \times 10^{-6}$	0.001	+17.0%, -15.2%
$^{222}\text{Rn}$ in LXe (0.1 $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )	$3.09 \times 10^{-4}$	0.071	$\pm 1.6\%$
<b>Total:</b>	<b><math>3.96 \times 10^{-3}</math></b>	<b>0.910</b>	<b>+4.7%, -5.0%</b>

- ER rate:  $(82 \pm 5)$  events/(keV t y), in 1.3 t and below  $25 \text{ keV}_{ee}$
- Lowest background in a dark matter detector

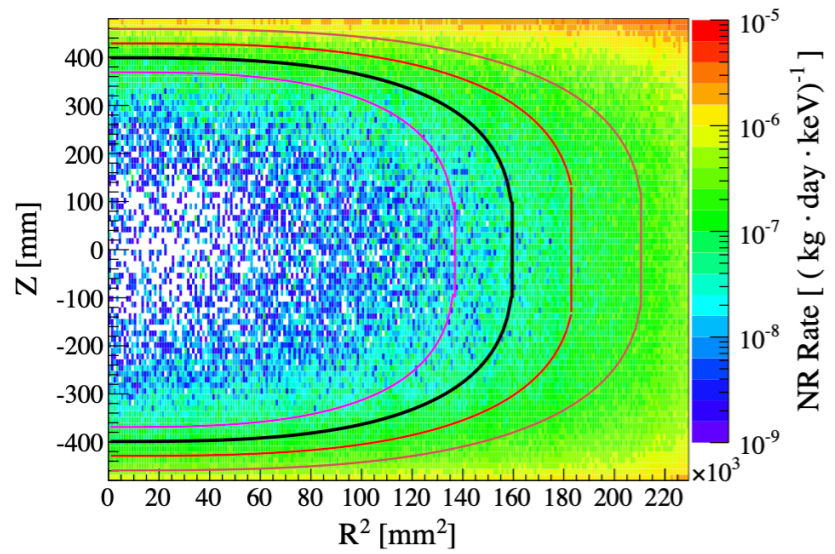


In 1 t fiducial mass  
Singles-scatters

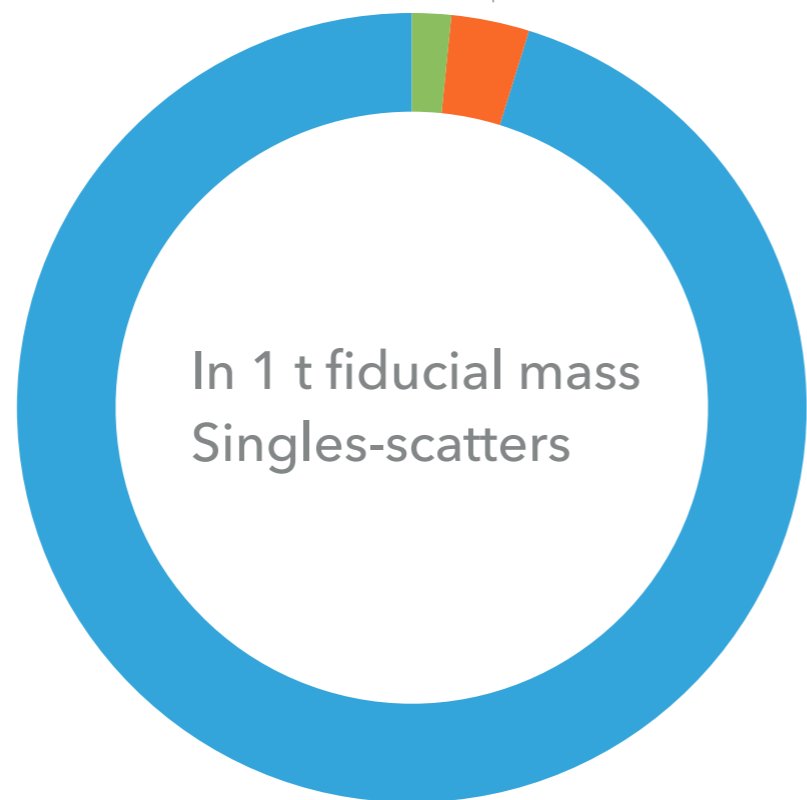


$^{222}\text{Rn}$  (10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$ )

Control surface emanation  
Reduce by online distillation



1.6%  
3.2%



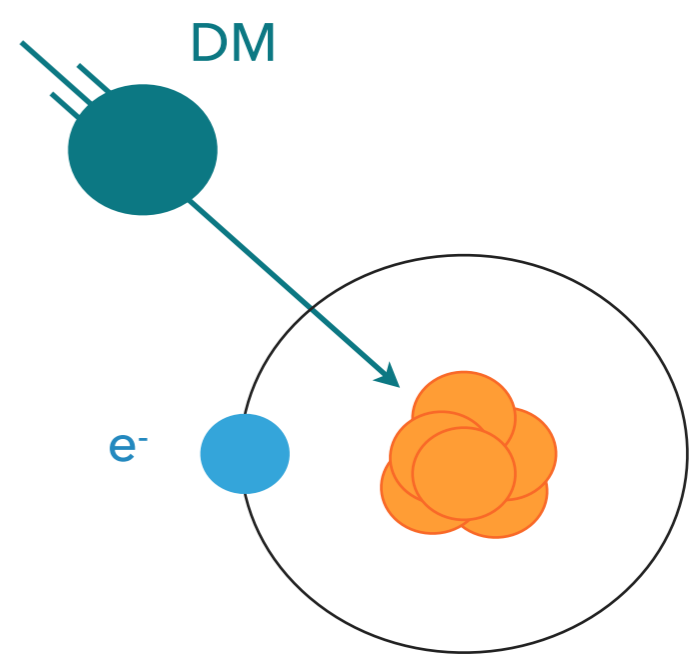
95.2%

Radiogenic neutrons

From ( $\alpha, n$ ) and SF reactions; material selection; single versus multiple-scatters

Cosmogenic neutrons (muon induced neutrons); rock overburden, water Cherenkov shield (here upper limit)

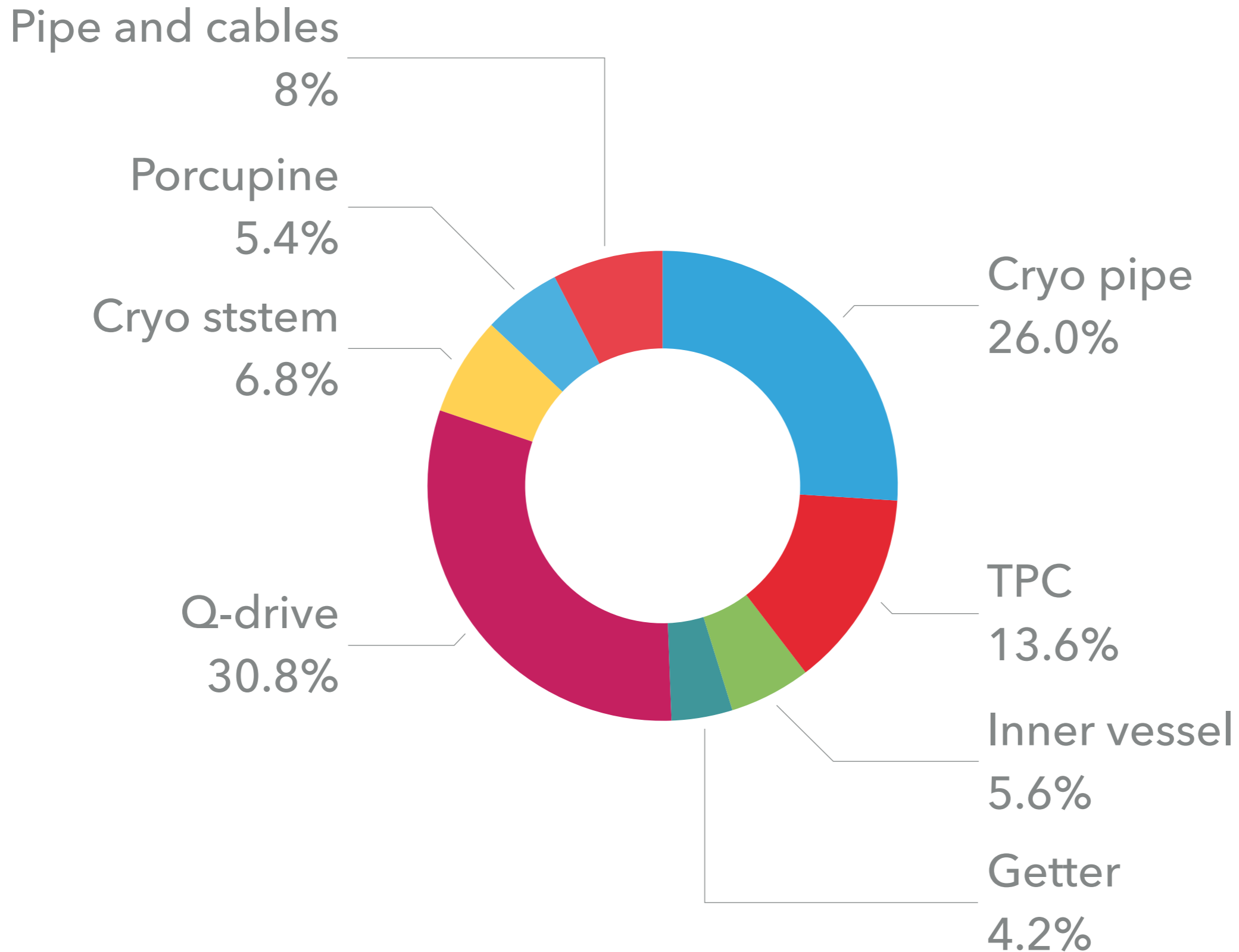
Coherent neutrino-nucleus scattering from  $^8\text{B}$  neutrinos; irreducible, but relevant at low (<1 keV) energies





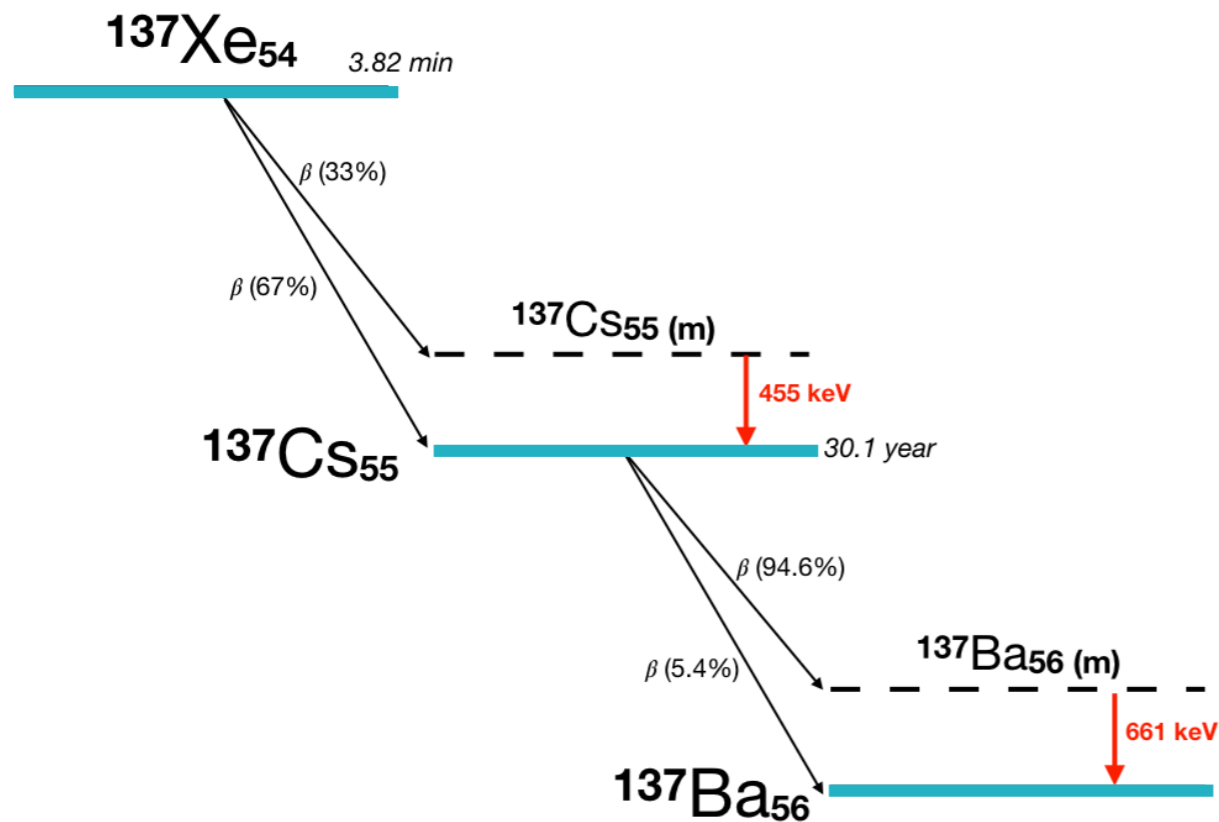
# RADON BUDGET IN XENON1T

10  $\mu\text{Bq/kg}$  (before replacement of Q-drive pumps)

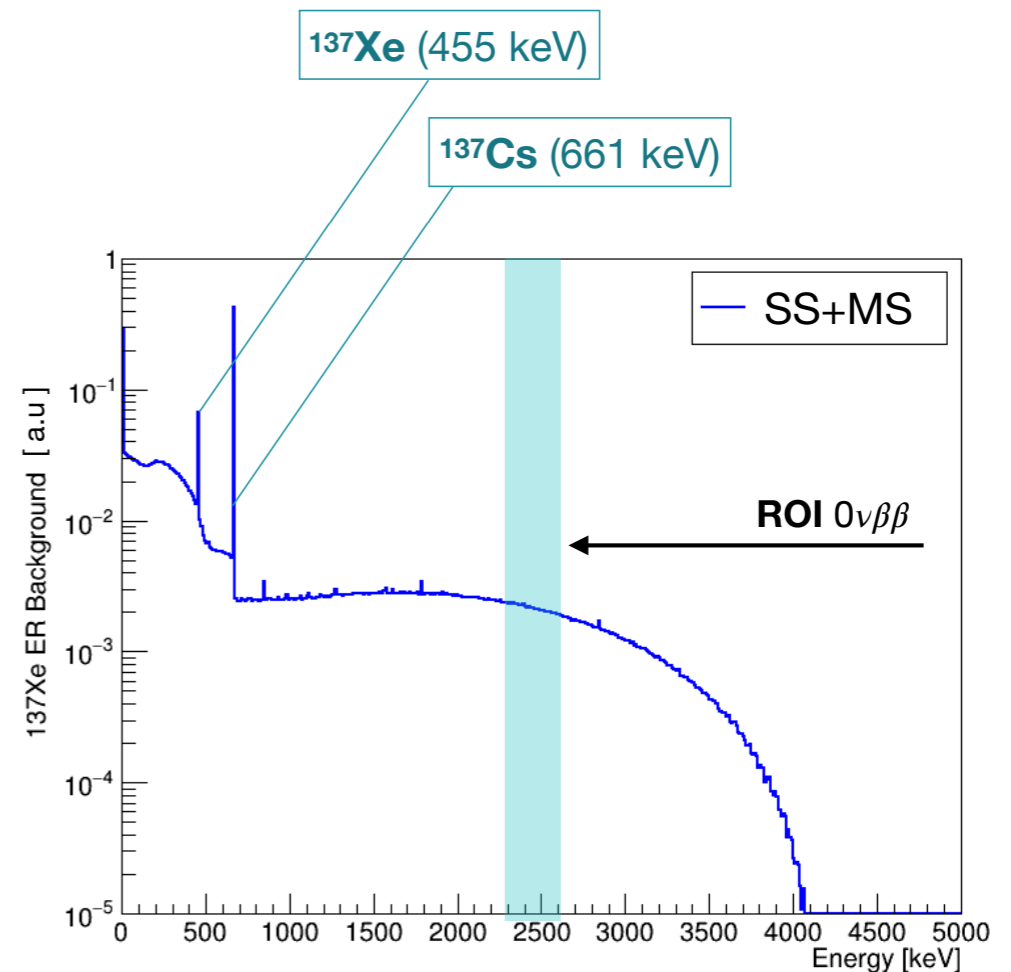


# 137-XE BACKGROUND

- ▶ Simulate  $^{137}\text{Xe}$ , production rate by cosmogenic n-capture
- ▶ Rate: 6.7 atoms/(t y), dominated by production on LXe (6.3 atoms/(t y) (at LNGS, 3600 mw.e.)
- ▶ nEXO: 2.2 atoms/(t y) at SNOLAB (PRC 97, 2018); KamLAND-Zen: 1.42 atoms/(t y) at Kamioka (PRL 117, 2016)



Rate in ROI:  $(1.40 \pm 0.06) \times 10^{-3}$  events/(t y keV)



ROI: Q-value  $\pm$  FWHM/2 = (2435-2481) keV

# 137-XE BACKGROUND

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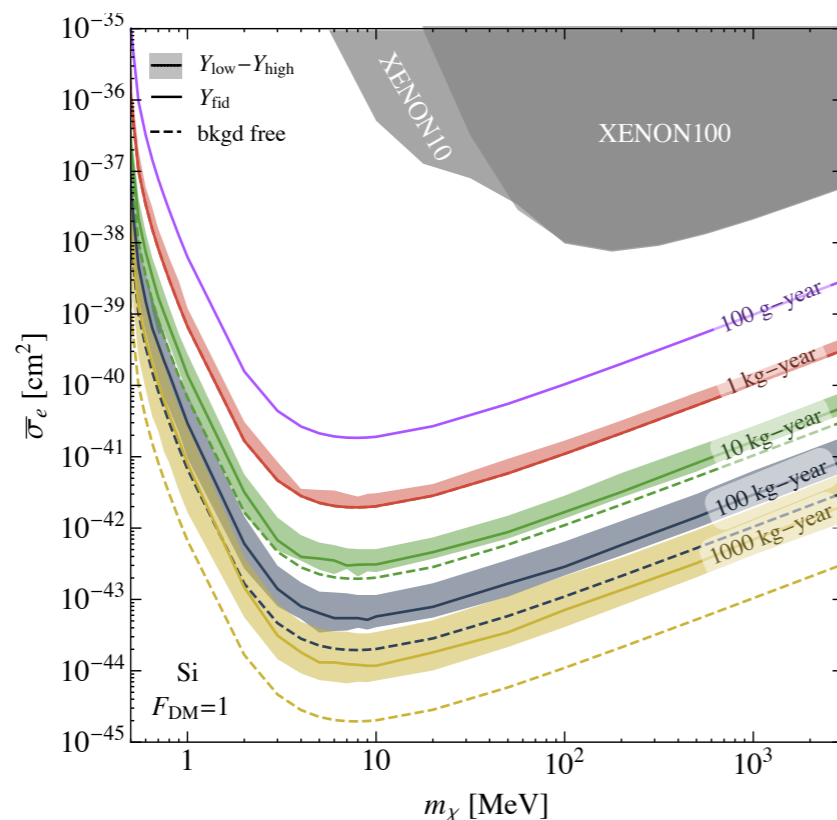
Material	Muon-induced Neutron Production Rate [n/year]	$^{137}\text{Xe}$ Production Rate [atoms/kg/year]
Copper	$1.12 \times 10^4$	$7.39 \times 10^{-5}$
SS	$1.32 \times 10^5$	$2.40 \times 10^{-4}$
LXe	$1.02 \times 10^6$	$6.34 \times 10^{-3}$
<b>Total</b>		$6.66 \times 10^{-3}$

Experiment	Location	Depth [m.w.e]	$^{137}\text{Xe}$ Production Rate [atoms/kg/year]
KamLAND-Zen [2]	Kamioka	2050	$1.42 \times 10^{-3}$
DARWIN	LNGS	3600	$6.66 \times 10^{-3}$
nEXO [3]	SNOLAB	6011	$2.20 \times 10^{-3}$

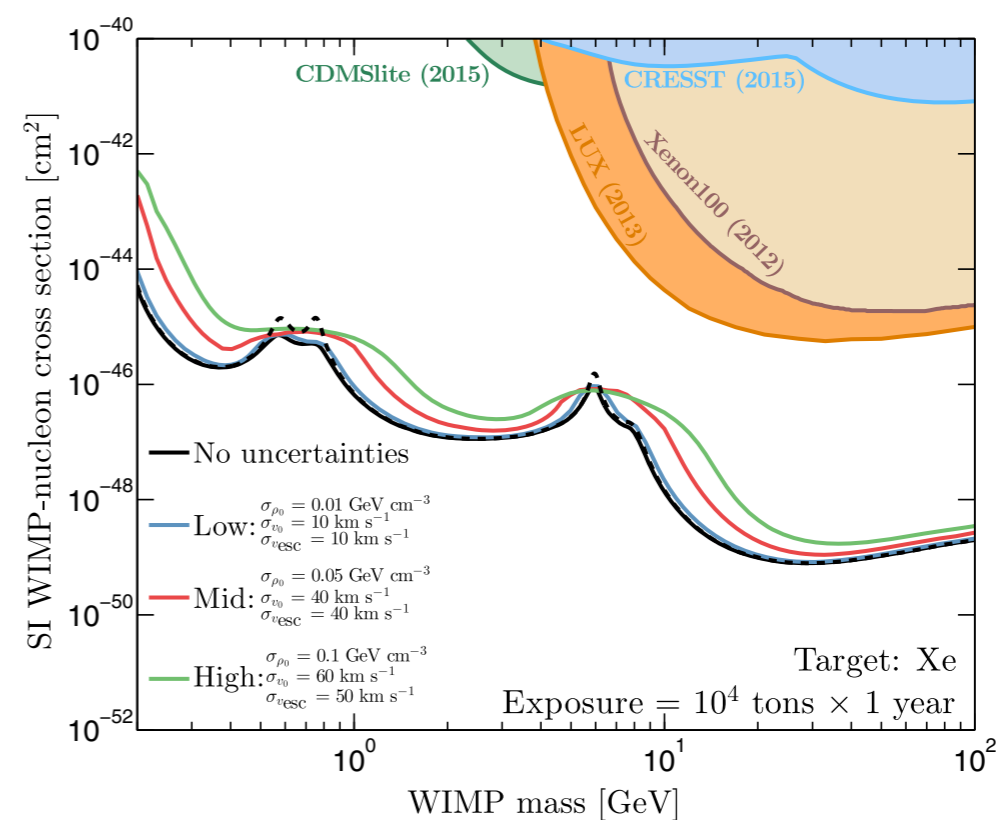
# NEUTRINO BACKGROUNDS FOR DM SEARCHES

- ▶ Low mass region: limit at  $\sim 0.1$ - 10 kg year (target dependent)
- ▶ High mass region: limit at  $\sim 10$  ktonne year
- ▶ But: annual modulation, directionality, momentum dependance, inelastic DM-nucleus scatters, etc

Discovery limits  
( $2\text{-}\sigma$ ) for various  
ionisation  
efficiencies  $Y$ ,  
solar  $\nu$   
background  
only



DM-electron scatters (R. Essig et al, PRD97, 2018)



DM-nucleus scatters (C.A.J. O'Hare, PRD94, 2016)